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24 PAGES 150 FILLS

PM assures Strike plan called off

KUWAIT, June 16, (Kuna): The Kuwait Union of Oil and Petrochemical Workers decided to cancel tomorrow's strike by its members because the union has been told that its demands will be studied.

The decision to cancel the strike was announced by the union's president Salem Hamad Suwayan.

Sources told Kuna that His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah received earlier today a group of representatives of the union led by its leader Suwayan, who requested the meeting.

Hirawi rejects Vatican proposal

BEIRUT, June 16, (Agencies): President Elias Hiriawi's government has rejected a proposal by the Vatican to amend an Arab League-brokered peace plan in return for rebel Gen. Michel Aoun recognising Hiriawi's authority, newspapers reported today.

Beirut's independent An-Nahar daily said a "unified stand" on rejecting the proposal was taken by Hiriawi, a Maronite Catholic, Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, and Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini, a Shiite Muslim.

Police reported that Aoun's mainly Christian troops skirmished with their rivals, the Lebanese Forces militia led by Christian leader Samir Geagea, during the night.

That was the latest violation of an increasingly fragile month-old ceasefire, brokered by the Vatican, in their power struggle for control of the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

Police said the two sides clashed with machine-guns and rocket-propelled grenades by the light of parachute flares in Christian East Beirut.

But police said no casualties were reported and the fighting died down at dawn.

By police count, 1,036 people have been killed and 2,774 wounded since the fighting erupted Jan 30. The battles have forced 40 per cent of the enclave's one million population to flee to safer areas or leave the country.

The reported rejection of the Vatican's initiative was a setback for efforts to break the deadlock in the Arab League's peace effort to end Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war between Christians and Muslims.

Aoun today released 37 rival Lebanese Forces militiamen taken prisoner during nearly five months of a fierce power struggle between the warring factions.

Officials said the militia members, who were held in underground jails, were handed over to officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the town of Kfarshima southeast of Beirut.

Sources close to Aoun called on Geagea to follow suit and release some kidnapped army troops.

Heavy monsoon rains paralyse life in Bombay

BOMBAY, June 16, (Reuters): Heavy monsoon rains today paralysed the city and the port of Bombay, India's main commercial centre, and a weatherman predicted more rain over the next 24 hours.

The downpour, described as the heaviest-ever for June, the first of the four-month monsoon season, halted the suburban trains which carry about three million people daily.

Most low-lying areas were flooded and at several places railway tracks were submerged under nearly a metre (three feet) of water.

Officials at Bombay port said rains halted loading and unloading work at the docks and most workers stayed home.

They said 26 ships were already waiting for berths in the harbour and the port, the country's busiest, was likely to get more congested in coming days.



HH the Amir talks with Collins (centre) as Sheikh Sabah looks on.

Brazil, Scotland win; Dutch draw



Leaps out

England goalkeeper Peter Shilton leaps out of the pool at the luxury Ismaias team hotel. Shilton made his 120th appearance as England goalie against Holland yesterday and became the world's most capped international soccer player. (Reuters wirephoto)

Stop Sahara expansion \$10b Japan plan

TOKYO, June 16, (AP): Japan is proposing a 1.6 trillion yen (\$10.8 billion) greenery project to help stop expansion of the southern Sahara desert, an official said today.

Under the 30-year plan unveiled by the forestry agency, trees would be planted in a 3,500-km (2,100-mile) "greenery defence belt" along the Niger river from lake Chad in the east to river Senegal in the west to block the southward advance of the Sahara desert.

The project also calls for development of farms and villages at 56 locations in the region to boost food production to meet the needs of 40 million people, said an agency official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The greenery belt also would be designed to support forest development and irrigate farm land, he said.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation presented a plan on Thursday to save African farmland from encroaching deserts which threaten a third of the continent's area.

Knighthoods for Ustinov and Amis

LONDON, June 16, (Agencies): Actor-author Peter Ustinov and writer Kingsley Amis were listed today as the newest knights of the realm in the birthday honours list of Queen Elizabeth II.

Medals and awards were showered on hundreds of other Britons, some of whom made their mark in such obscure professions as cheese-grading and keykeeping.

The most Rev Robert Runcie receives a peerage that will enable him to sit in the House of Lords as Baron Runcie following his retirement as Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury next year.

Dame Lydia Dunn, a senior Hong Kong legislator who has become a well-known figure in the preparations for China's takeover of the British colony in 1997, becomes a baroness.

These honours, and others to writer Anita Brookner, historian



Peter Ustinov.

Martin Gilbert and fashion designer Bruce Oldfield, were actually chosen by the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

(Continued on Page 2)

Collins meets Kuwaiti leaders Focus on EEC role in Mideast peace

KUWAIT, June 16, (AP): Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins discussed with Kuwaiti leaders today the role the European Economic Community can play to help the Middle East peace process, informed sources said.

Collins, current chairman of the EEC ministerial council, held separate meetings with HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Abdullah Al Sabah and

Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

The discussions focused in particular on the Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and Arab fears that they will be settled in Israeli-occupied territories said the sources who requested anonymity. The takeover of a hawkish government in Israel which has vowed to crush the Palestinian uprising in these territories was also discussed.

"We reviewed Europe's attitude toward the

perils implicit in the Soviet Jewish emigration to occupied territories ... we found extreme understanding in the EEC's part for this question ...," said Sheikh Sabah to reporters following the talks.

Collins said he briefed the Kuwaiti leaders on the outcome of the recent EEC's ministerial council meeting which stressed the need for "a just, comprehensive and durable solution for the Palestinian question."

Pakistan firm

Support to Kashmiris will continue: Khan

ISLAMABAD, June 16, (Reuters): Pakistan said today it would not budge from supporting a Kashmiri campaign for secession from India which it called a just cause.

"There will be no relaxation in our resolve to extend political, moral and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people as their cause is our cause," Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan told parliament during a budget debate.

Pakistan denies Indian charges of training and arming the Kashmiri Muslim militants and Yaqub Khan said Islamabad hoped for a positive response from New Delhi to its proposal for urgent talks to reduce the threat of a fourth war between them.

He denied opposition charges that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government was soft towards India and had done little to back the Kashmiri campaign, in which at least 600 people have been killed since a government crackdown began in mid-January.

Tamils agree to truce in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, June 16, (Agencies): The Sri Lankan government and Tamil rebels today agreed to an unconditional end to fighting that has raged for nearly a week and left more than 450 dead, government sources said.

The agreement, which was to take effect at 6 pm today, was reached after seven hours of negotiations between Justice Minister Shabul Hameed, the government's chief negotiator, and leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, government sources said.

Hameed telephoned Colombo with the news from the northern port town of Jaffna, 180 miles (300 km) north of Colombo, where the negotiations were held at a heavily guarded rebel office, the sources said.

Hameed said the government and Tigers agreed on an unconditional ceasefire and that he and rebel leaders would later tour areas where fighting occurred to see what could be done to restore normalcy, the sources said.

The two sides also agreed to resolve all outstanding issues through negotiations, the sources said.

They said Hameed was expected to return to the capital tonight.

Fighting erupted on Tuesday in Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces, home to most of the nation's three-million-strong Tamil minority.

The government and the Tigers agreed to a ceasefire earlier in the week, but the agreement failed and fighting spread to many areas in the northern and eastern provinces.

On Saturday, heavy fighting continued around Trincomalee, 135 miles (215 km) northeast of Colombo, and in the east coast's Batticaloa district where soldiers battled to regain control of a number of police stations captured by the rebels and to stop attacks on at least three military camps, the sources said.

Casualty figures were not available.

The sources said that 23 army commandos were killed and 11 others wounded last night during fighting near Muttur, about 14 miles (22 km) south of Trincomalee.

At least 450 soldiers, police, rebels and civilians have been killed in this week's fighting. The dead included about 775 police officers captured and later killed by rebels, police and military sources said.

But government officials

Israel invites Arabs Dial us at 705555

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 16, (Reuters): Israel said today that any telephone call to promote peace must be made by Arab states to Israel rather than by Israel to the United States.

"I suggest that the Arab states ... take this number: Jerusalem 705555, the prime minister's office," Justice Minister Dan Meridor told army radio.

"The moment that line comes to life, the moment there is a conversation from an Arab capital on it, and the moment they request the prime minister there, we will know there is a chance for the peace process," Meridor said.

US Secretary of State James Baker told Congress's Foreign Affairs Committee on Wednesday there would be no Mideast peace if Israel's new hardline government insisted Palestinians accept its idea of autonomy before talks began.

Baker gave the White House telephone number — 1-202-456-1414 — and told Israel, "when you're serious about peace, call us."



Supporters of Iliescu display spent cartridges in Bucharest on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Romania calm 110 still in hospital

BUCHAREST, June 16, (Agencies): Romania's capital regained an outward calm today after three days of street violence sullied the image of a revolution born six months ago this week-end.

Shoppers hurrying for shelter in Bucharest's rainswept streets no longer had to watch out for squads of cosh-swinging miners who battered passers-by they suspected of holding anti-government opinions.

But government officials appeared to be divided on the miners' tactics.

The official Romsprea news agency said today that six people were killed and 502 injured in the violence that erupted after club-wielding riot police broke up a 53-day, anti-government demonstration early Wednesday.

At least 110 of the injured remained hospitalized, seven with very serious injuries, said Romsprea, quoting Health Minister (Continued on Page 2)

North Korea will not support Manila rebels

MANILA, June 16, (AP): North Korea has assured the Philippines it will not support rebels fighting the government of President Corazon Aquino and hopes for better relations between the two countries.

The assurances were contained in a letter from North Korean Vice-Prime Minister Kim Dal Hayon to Aquino brought to Manila by a group of Filipino legislators who visited North Korea June 7-12.

Copies of the letter were distributed today by the department of foreign affairs.

Kim said he was authorized to agree to a proposal by the Filipino legislators to assure Manila that his government will not support the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines, which has been waging a 21-year guerrilla war against the government.

Rep. Jose De Venecia, chairman of the House of Representatives' committee on foreign affairs and leader of the five-member delegation, said Kim promised his government will not provide training and weapons for local communists "now and in the future."



Soweto Day

A crowd of 7,500 cheered black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela in Amsterdam on Saturday as he told the South African government on the anniversary of the Soweto uprising "Let bygones be bygones."

Fourteen years ago a school's protest in the South African township against apartheid-based education for blacks began an uprising in which police shot dead over 600 people.

"Today is June the 16th. A day in 1976 when the government decided to mow our children down in Soweto," Mandela said.

But he added: "Despite all the cruelties committed in the past, we say to this government, 'let bygones be bygones and let us build a new South Africa together!'"

The deputy president of the African National Congress (ANC) is in the Netherlands as part of a world tour. The Dutch are traditionally staunch opponents of apartheid despite their historic ties with the white Dutch-descended Afrikaners in South Africa.

Earlier story Page 6

States: Iraq on collision course

WASHINGTON, June 16, (Reuters): The Bush administration said yesterday Iraq was on a collision course with the West because of its efforts to develop nuclear and chemical weapons and a "super gun," but that trade sanctions would not be effective against Baghdad.

"Iraq has demonstrated a willingness to go to great lengths to develop non-conventional weapons," Assistant Secretary of State Richard Kelly said.

"In that respect, Iraq is placing itself on a collision course not just with the United States but with the rest of the industrialized world."

"Iraq will quickly reach a point at which its genuine economic development aims will be hampered by its clandestine attempts to procure exotic and non-conventional weapons from the West," he told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

But Kelly said US trade sanctions would not be effective because Baghdad could import from elsewhere, and other countries would not join in an embargo.

The United States exported \$1 billion in agricultural commodities to Iraq in 1989 and this year has provided \$500 million in commodity credit guarantees. In addition, the US Export-Import Bank provides credit insurance of \$300 million to US exporters to Iraq.

Senator Nancy Kassebaum, a Kansas Republican, criticised a lack of response to its alleged attempts to acquire nuclear and chemical weapons materials.

"It just makes me weep that we are not doing more to bring this to the world's attention," she said.

Kelly said the United States had talked to the Europeans about agricultural sanctions against Iraq but they said "we have our exports to think of."

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

KD250 must be won

Last date for sending entries for Game No. 77 is June 18 and numbers will be drawn from June 20.

INTERNATIONAL

Cory vows to pursue land reform programme

MANILA, June 16, (AP): President Corason Aquino vowed yesterday to pursue her controversial land reform programme and said her administration has already distributed more land than the government of the late Ferdinand Marcos.

In a speech marking the second year of the comprehensive agrarian reform programme, Aquino said 429,276 farm plots had been distributed to 315,817 landless rice and corn farmers in 1988

and 1989, and another 17,916 had been distributed during the first quarter of 1990.

She said this compared with the 13-year record of less than 150,000 plots distributed to about 23,000 tenants by the previous administration. The Marcos government was toppled in a popular revolt in 1986 that installed Aquino as president.

Aquino said her government's land reform programme includes all private

and public lands.

"National interest dictates that we pursue agrarian reform with the vigour and zeal we had when we began," Aquino said. "Carp is the linchpin to our economic restructuring effort. Its successful implementation is our long-term guarantee of national economic recovery and development."

Aquino said that when she took office after the "people power" revolution in 1986, she was tempted to

sacrifice democratic processes for a speedy implementation of land reform.

"But if we had done so, we would have mocked the very ideals of freedom that we had fought for," she said. "Even the implementation of agrarian reform has to be subservient to the methods of democracy."

Aquino also appealed for co-operation and "statesmanship" among officials in other branches of government to guarantee the success of the

programme.

The land reform programme has been criticised by both landlords and farmers. Landlords charge the programme is confiscatory and "communist" while peasant associations say it provides big landowners many loopholes.

The sharpest criticism has been against a decision to distribute shares of stocks rather than land in the 6,000-hectare (14,820-acre) Aquino family-

owned sugar estate north of Manila. There also have been allegations of corruption involving the overpricing of private lands acquired for redistribution to farmers.

The Department of Agrarian Reform, which oversees the programme, has had four secretaries in as many years.

A scandal involving the overpricing of land in 1989 forced then secretary Philip Juico to resign.

Filipinos unaware of issues on bases

MANILA, June 16, (UPI): President Corason Aquino's government announced plans today to conduct a comprehensive information campaign on the presence of US military bases after a survey revealed many Filipinos were unaware of the key issues involved.

However, press under-secretary Horacio Paredes, who released the survey results, did not say if the proposed information campaign will be for or against the renewal of US basing rights, which expire in Sept 1991.

The survey, which involved 200 residents of Metro-Manila, showed 100 per cent of the respondents were aware of the presence of the US installations and 94 per cent knew about the expiry date of the basing treaty.

"However, despite these important knowledge, few of the respondents feel they are sufficiently informed about the deeper issues on the US bases and the proposed alternative uses of the bases should no treaty extending the stay of the US facilities be reached," it said.

"This level of awareness indeed has to be developed since this may be crucial in any decision-making exercise on the bases issue," said the survey conducted immediately after first round of talks on the future of the facilities ended May 18 in Manila.

"There is a pressing need to conduct an information campaign on the issue that would act as a comprehensive primer for the community on the history, development and the future of the bases in the country."

Only two per cent of the respondents said they did not have sufficient knowledge about the issues involved and 60 per cent said they were not fully aware of the alternatives being planned by the government if the facilities are pulled out.

The survey showed 79 per cent agreed with the serving of a notice of termination, 80 per cent were in favour of the United States settling a \$222 million and shortfall and 75 per cent agreed that the two nations should remain as friends even if the bases are dismantled.

Paredes said the results of the survey will be forwarded to the Philippine panel in the negotiations headed by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus. The talks are expected to resume in late August.

The survey said the lack of sufficient knowledge on the issues regarding the bases has created a "dangerous information vacuum that can be manipulated by vested interests" and proposed more widespread media coverage of the next round of talks.

The Philippines hosts the giant Clark air base, the largest US air base in Asia, and Subic Bay naval station, the sprawling repair and logistics centre for the US seventh fleet, and four smaller facilities.

Rebels claim killing

MANILA, June 16, (AP): Communist rebels today claimed responsibility for killing a senior Philippine intelligence officer earlier this week, blaming the death on the officer's resistance to being captured.

Army said Col. Saturnino Dela Cruz, whose military intelligence group was assigned to track down communist rebels, violently resisted capture, forcing rebels to shoot him.

The attack Monday on Dumiao was the first time rebels have attempted to kidnap a military officer in the capital.

A military spokesman said Dumiao was driving toward when a van blocked his car a few metres (yards) from his home in suburban Paranaque. Four men armed with automatic rifles and pistols jumped out and opened fire on him, killing Dumiao on the spot, the spokesman said. The gunmen escaped.

Last week, Dumiao and his men captured Antonio Tujan, allegedly the sixth highest ranking leader of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines, near the spot where he was gunned down.

Romania students losing all hopes

BUCHAREST, June 16, (AP): Viorel Budulacu, beaten up during a crackdown on anti-government demonstrations, says he suffered more than cuts and bruises. He also lost his idealism.

"The only chance is to defect — flee from Romania," said the 25-year-old student.

Like many students who helped spearhead the December revolution that toppled Nicolae Ceausescu, Budulacu said he has lost faith in president-elect Ion Iliescu.

Iliescu and his National Salvation Front won the May 20 elections but the protesters say they are continuing Ceausescu's repressive policies.

Budulacu, a Sophomore at Bucharest polytechnic, was one of 367 people hurt since police broke up a 53-day-old peaceful anti-communist protest at downtown university square on Wednesday.

That action touched off fierce street violence that claimed five lives when security forces opened fire on crowds attacking them.

Iliescu called for help in quelling the anti-government demonstrations, and thousands of coal miners responded by pouring into the capital and brutally beating anyone they suspected of being an opponent of the government.

Marius Dinu, 22, an architecture student and university square protester, told reporters at the emergency hospital on Friday he has no hope left for Romania.

"I don't know what's awaiting me. I would like to leave the country for good... and forget all about the hopes the revolution has given me," Dinu said.

Dinu was hospitalized after being clubbed, punched and kicked by miners Thursday morning in the school of architecture on the square.

"They threw us on top of each other into a moaning pile," he said.

Emergency hospital director Mihai Ciuta told a news conference Friday that 48 of the 236 injured people treated at his facility since Wednesday morning remained hospitalized, most with multiple injuries.

Marian Munteanu, president of the students' league and one of the leaders of the anti-government protest, has a fractured skull and broken left leg and arm. Dr Horia Gheorgescu said.

Munteanu, speaking from the emergency ward, said he believed Iliescu's rule was doomed to fail.

"I wouldn't like to be in Iliescu's place. I believe in God and one day we will all have to answer God's questions for whatever we have done," he said.

"It's a long way to democracy," said Munteanu, close to tears. "You are now watching a growing dictator."

Iliescu was shown on state television Friday night thanking the miners "with all my heart" for defending his government.

Marius Dobrescu, beaten by paramilitary police when he and other demonstrators stormed the state television building, is now in intensive care. He said he also wants to leave Romania.

Romania



Thousands of miners arrived in central University Square, Bucharest on June 14. Ten thousand miners supporting President Ion Iliescu took over the square

from anti-government protesters. (Reuter wirephoto)

Knighthoods

(Continued from Page 1)

The government rewards the loyalty and service of hundreds of people twice each year — at the New Year and in June in honour of the monarch's official birthday.

Queen Elizabeth was born April 21, 1926, but her official birthday is marked on a day in June when there is a marginally better chance of sunny weather for parades and celebrations.

Ustinov, the 69-year-old actor, author, dramatist, film director, newspaper columnist and raconteur, becomes a knight bachelor, as does Amis, 67, author of "The Old Devils."

"Lucky Jim" and most recently, "The Folks that Live on the Hill."

"My reaction is one of unqualified delight," Amis said. "It is wonderful news."

Ustinov, who was made a CBE, or Companion of British Empire in 1975, was asked how he felt about being knighted.

"I cannot see it making any difference. I shall go on working. It's like another flag on Everest," Ustinov said.

Anita Brookner, who won the prestigious Booker prize in 1984 for her novel, "Hotel du Lac,"

was made a CBE. The same honour goes to actress Eileen Atkins, an actress and co-creator of the television series "Upstairs, Downstairs."

Oldfield, 39, reared in a Yorkshire children's home, became a favourite fashion designer of the Princess of Wales. He was made an OBE, or Officer of the Order of British Empire.

Tracy Edwards, 27, whose all-woman crew placed second in their class in the Whitbread around-the-world yacht race, became an MBE, or Member of the Order of British Empire.

Tucked away in the shadow of these luminaries, among the head librarians, tax inspectors and civil service secretaries, are professions more piquant, if less glamorous, than drama and fashion.

Richard Craig was honoured with an MBE, for services to English fishing, and Cathleen Sampson, former regional gypsy liaison officer in east Anglia, was made one too.

Opera singer Jane Manning was made an OBE, and Elizabeth Blaydes got the same honour for services to Lacrosse.

British empire medals went to

John Blake, mace-bearer from Monmouth, Gwent; Herbert Plenty, cheese-grader for the milk marketing board, and Florence Clary, the keykeeper of Mistle towers, Essex.

The honours bear nothing except honour, a medal, and the right to put letters such as OBE and BEM after a name, but they are a matter of great pride to recipients.

Hundreds of uniformed police, marksmen and anti-terrorist squads threw a tight security net around the pomp and ceremony of a royal parade for the official birthday of Britain's Queen Elizabeth today.

Security sources said anti-terrorist squads were deployed along the route from the monarch's residence at Buckingham Palace to the parade ground about one mile (two km) away where the trooping the colour ceremony took place.

Uniformed police lined the wide avenue and marksmen kept watch from atop nearby buildings as the queen, dressed in a pale green outfit and matching hat, was driven past in an open carriage.

'Zionist hand in Lanka'

COLOMBO, June 16, (Kuna): The Sri Lankan president of the Pan-Arab Friendship Association and the Speaker of the Sri Lankan Parliament, Mohamed Haniffa Mohammed, has called upon the government yesterday to send away all Israeli experts with immediate effect while warning the people of Sri Lanka to be on the alert against all forms and in a statement, Mohammed said that the Sri Lanka-Pan Arab Association notes with deep concern the tragic situation in the northern and the eastern provinces of the island.

The statement adds that considering the very reliable information we receive from reliable eye-witnesses from these areas, we are compelled to conclude there is a Zionist involvement in mass massacre committed by the LTTE in spite of the government's efforts to settle the differences through dialogue.

The statement further said, "We have every reason to believe that Zionist agents are gnawing their teeth in anger after they were instructed to leave Sri Lanka and have made use of the LTTE through their so-called experts who were fielded in Sri Lanka to do their dirty job of destabilising the country."

Thai premier urges US to join in regional change

WASHINGTON, June 16, (Reuter): Prime Minister Chatchai Choonhavan urged the United States yesterday to join Thailand in transforming his region from an East-West battlefield into a market place.

Chatchai said a new order was shaping up in Southeast Asia, bridging the gap between the six non-communist nations that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and communist-ruled Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, on the other.

"We are moving beyond conflict and confrontation, and moving towards conciliation and co-operation," he told a luncheon at the national press club.

Referring to the 11-year-old war in Cambodia, the focus of regional tension, Chatchai said he saw signs that his step-by-step approach to resolving the conflict was working.

Initially, the United States was critical of Thailand's decision last year to break ranks and end a US-backed economic embargo of Vietnam and the Hanoi-backed government in Phnom Penh.

The embargo was designed to force Hanoi to negotiate a comprehensive settlement in Cambodia through the holding of free and fair elections there.

"As our two nations co-operate together in striving towards peace in Cambodia, let us begin to look ahead to the post-Cambodia era and contemplate how we can work together to help the countries of Indochina along the path of economic reconstruction and development so that they too can share in the fruits of economic development," Chatchai said.

In talks at the White House on Thursday with President George Bush, Chatchai encouraged the United States to take a more conciliatory approach towards Vietnam and consider following the Thai lead in holding talks with the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh government of Prime Minister Hun Sen, aides to the prime minister said.

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try officials. It was the worst outburst of violence since the December revolution that led to the overthrow and execution of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

The thousands of miners left, as they arrived, at the behest of president-elect Ion Iliescu. The President yesterday thanked "with all my heart" the workers who came to defend his government against what he termed "fascist" rebellion organized by right-wingers in Romania and elsewhere in Europe.

The last train of miners left Bucharest late last night for western Romania, railway official Ion Tica was quoted as saying by Rompres.

The centre of the city was quiet as a steady rain fell. Helicopters carrying automatic weapons guarded University Square and reinforcements sat in trucks nearby.

Rows of tanks guarded key buildings including government headquarters and the state television headquarters, which came under fierce attack on Wednesday night from anti-government demonstrators.

Iliescu told the miners yesterday that he was planning a national guard "of clean, loyal, honest people, who can act resolutely at exceptional times," according to a Romanian radio reported monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

It said he reiterated previous statements that the government was under threat from a right-wing coup, and charged that forces from abroad were involved.

"We are dealing here with a broader scenario of European proportions," Iliescu was quoted as saying. "There was a joint action of right-wing forces, which started from the presumption that right-wing forces in all East European countries could come to power."

Iliescu also said Interior and Defence Ministry forces will maintain order in Bucharest, patrolling day and night.

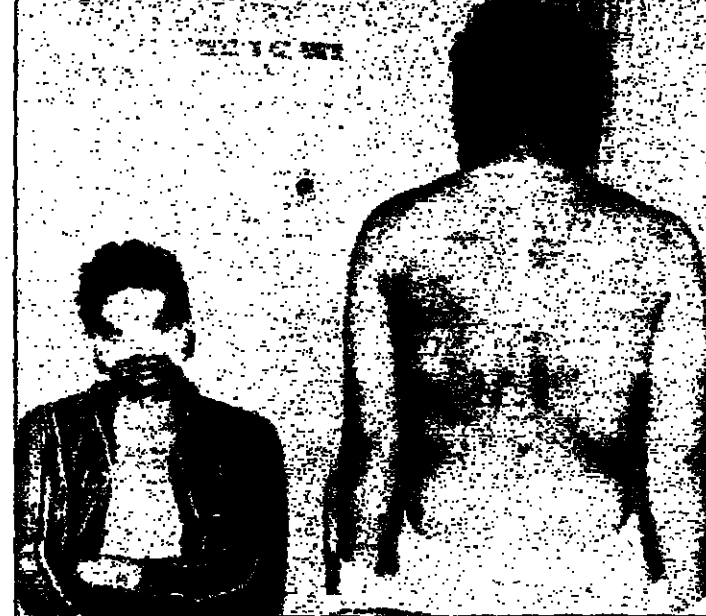
Teams of blue-helmeted police bearing truncheons and soldiers were seen in the early hours today in the centre of the capital.

The government on Thursday accused police of failing to act with enough resolve against today's anti-government demonstrators.

A late-night TV newscast contained a commentary deploring violence "against innocent people," but no film.

State television chairman Razvan Teodorescu, when asked at a news conference today why no footage of the miners' violence was broadcast, said it had no such film because the crews were too frightened to work.

A late-night TV newscast contained a commentary deploring violence "against innocent people," but no film.



Romanians await medical treatment in a Bucharest hospital after they were beaten by supporters of Iliescu. (Reuter wirephoto)

Weeklong rains in Colombo

21 people die in mudslide

COLOMBO, June 16, (AP): Tons of mud and rocks, loosened by weeklong rains, tumbled down a hill yesterday, crushing to death at least 21 people in a central town, police said.

The mudslide and rockfall hit Talawakelle town, 90 kms (55 miles) east of Colombo, at 4 a.m. (2330 GMT Thursday), when most of the residents were sleeping, said police.

They said seven homes, two shops and the town's main bus station were buried. Survivors were quoted as saying that the mudslide was accompanied by a sound like thunder.

Mudslides are common during the monsoon season in the island's central hill districts. Police in Talawakelle, who were contacted by telephone, said rescuers have found 11 bodies.

Vietnam-China talks fail to bridge differences

BANGKOK, June 16, (AP): Senior Chinese and Vietnamese negotiators failed during recent talks to bridge differences over how to resolve the 11-year-old Cambodia war.

Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dumin said the gap has not narrowed on two key issues: The status of Cambodia's government and of the army during the transition to a new administration, the official Chinese News Agency Xinhua reported late yesterday.

Xu said talks in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, with Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co during the first visit by a senior Chinese official since the two sides fought a bloody border war in early 1979. The two days of talks ended Wednesday.

Xu's visit was the fourth round of Sino-Vietnamese talks over the past year and a half.

The war was over Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia a few weeks earlier. The Cambodian war continues, with Chinese-backed guerrillas fighting the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh.

Hopes for peace have centred on proposals for United Nations involvement in administering the country after a truce and before elections.

But the Xinhua report quoted Xu as saying yesterday in Bangkok that, "we came to know through the exchange of views that Vietnam does not agree to bringing into full play the role of the United Nations."

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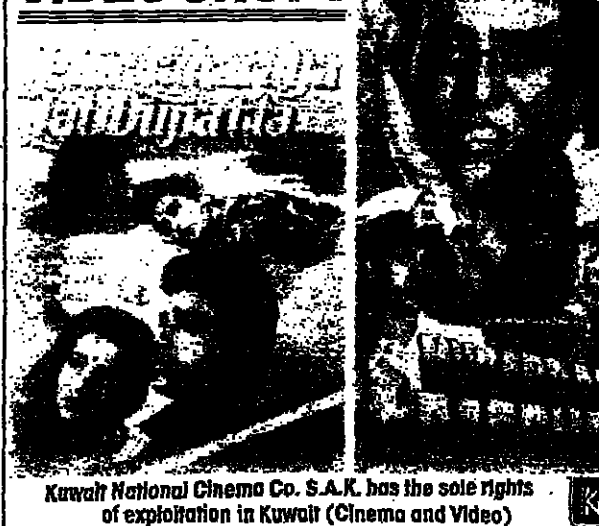
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Leukaemia girl given transfusion despite parents' protest

NICOSIA, June 16, (AP) — A 2-year-old Greek Cypriot girl suffering from leukaemia was given a life-saving blood transfusion today after the government authorised it because her parents refused to allow the treatment on religious grounds.

"We had to rescue the child from death," said Helen Soteriou, a British-born leukaemia expert at Nicosia's Evangelistria clinic who conducted the transfusion for the girl, Stephanie Charalambous.

The girl's parents, Titos and Eleni Charalambous, are Jehovah's Witnesses, a fundamentalist Christian sect that forbids blood transfusions.

The government stepped in last night in an unprecedented move to declare Stephanie a ward of the state welfare department, climaxing a week-long drama over the child's fate that has gripped this East Mediterranean island.

George Marcoulis, a cancer specialist at the private clinic, told reporters that Stephanie was responding well to an initial transfusion

of one pint of blood.

Several more transfusions are planned in a bid to combat the leukaemia, an often lethal blood disease, doctors reported.

"She's improving," Marcoulis said. "Her white blood cells are stable... we're planning to continue treatment, including chemotherapy."

"Her chances of survival are definitely in the range of 60-80 per cent," he said.

Health Minister Panikos Pappageorgiou, himself a physician, declared when the govern-

ment intervened yesterday: "The parents have no power. We have to act to save the child's life. She came to us late. Her condition is critical."

Stephanie's parents snatched her from London's Great Ormond Street Hospital Monday to prevent her being given a transfusion there and returned to Cyprus, defying a British court order that the transfusion should go ahead.

They went into hiding after a Cypriot court also ordered them to allow the girl to have a

transfusion. Police issued arrest warrants for the parents and launched a dragnet to find them in a bid to save the girl's life.

The warrants were withdrawn after Stephanie's parents took her to the Evangelistria clinic Thursday.

But the couple went into hiding a second time with their daughter until police tracked them down yesterday and placed Stephanie under state care.

Day-long efforts by doctors at the clinic yesterday to persuade the parents to permit a

transfusion proved futile.

"Nobody can love my child as much as I do," her father told reporters after Stephanie was taken to the clinic yesterday.

"Of course, we'll do everything possible and sell all our belongings if necessary, with the full support of the rest of my family, to save Stephanie's life. But we cannot agree to a blood transfusion," he said.

Dr Soteriou said "there was no other way" to save Stephanie except to make Stephanie a ward of the state.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NORFOLK, Virginia: First Lady Barbara Bush yesterday called "General Douglas MacArthur a great American" and praised his widow as a woman devoted to helping others during a dedication of the Jean MacArthur research centre.

Jean MacArthur has received many honours, but the most fitting can be found here, where her husband is memorialised. Barbara told a crowd of about 700 gathered in MacArthur Square. "No one had a greater influence on the general," she said.

"She called the 91-year-old widow a 'very good friend' and praised the military exploits of her husband, whose career stretched through two world wars and the Korean war."

"General MacArthur truly was a giant among men," said Barbara.

A soldier, statesman, orator, writer of the first order and a deeply devoted husband.

Mrs MacArthur said she wasn't one to make speeches, but she appeared to relish her moment in the spotlight as she and Barbara cut a red ribbon to officially dedicate the centre. (AP)

VENICE, Italy: Red tape and ministerial rivalries are jeopardising an ambitious project to save Venice from sinking into its lagoon, a consortium said today.

The new Venice consortium of scientists and private and public companies told ministers the project was likely to miss a 1995 deadline.

"Unless there is an about-turn in present trends and whoever has the power to make the new start makes concrete commitments, the works will not be finished before 2020-2030," it said in a report.

The delay threatened the success of the project, which includes building a flood barrier in the city's lagoon.

Any project to save Venice, the report said, had to be approved by 23 government-run agencies and even then work would not start for another two to four years.

It appealed for fewer ministers and agencies to be involved, for guaranteed regular funding and for rigorous controls.

Venice has sunk 23 cm (10 inches) since the beginning of the century. (Reuters)

KLAMATH FALLS, Oregon: Hundreds of white pelicans returning to southern Oregon from their winter feeding grounds in Mexico have been dying at an alarming rate, and biologists said yesterday they are not sure why.

US fish and wildlife service biologist Jim Hainline of the Klamath basin wildlife refuge said 400 to 500 pelican carcasses have been turned in during the past month in the Klamath and Harney basins.

Five of the carcasses were sent to a wildlife laboratory in California, but scientists there were unable to determine the cause of the deaths, Hainline said.

Unsatisfied with that answer, Hainline said more carcasses have been sent to the national wildlife healthy laboratory in Madison, Wis. He said he suspects pesticide poisoning, but because of a tremendous backlog at the Wisconsin lab, Hainline does not expect to get any answers for several months. (UPI)

James Joyce's Ulysses

Celebration

DUBLIN, June 16, (Reuters): James Joyce fans took to the streets of his beloved "Dear Dirty Dublin" today in Edwardian striped blazers and boater hats to celebrate the Irish novelist's most famous work.

Most Dubliners may never even have opened the mammoth and highly complex "Ulysses" but that doesn't stop them marking with enthusiasm the day in 1904 when the book's hero, Leopold Bloom, wandered around Dublin.

Their eccentric peregrinations begin at the Joyce Tower in Sandycove south of Dublin, take in a lunch of Gorgonzola cheese and burgundy at Davy Byrne's pub, a horse-drawn cab ride around St Stephen's Green and a stopover at Sweeney's the chemist to buy some lemon soap.

One department store is even staging a James Joyce look-alike competition for anyone who can capture the essence of the bespectacled author with the walking stick and bow tie.

For the half-hearted Joycean fan eager for a short cut through his 1922 masterpiece, strolling players perform chunks of the great work in impromptu street theatre shows.

James Joyce once said: "Ulysses will keep the professors busy for centuries arguing over what it meant."

It has certainly spawned an academic industry. Joyce summer schools are held anywhere from Monte Carlo to Dublin.

Robert Nicholson, curator of the Joyce Museum, complained to the Irish Times: "Joyce was given a bad name by the sort of critic who was able to find symbolism under every stone, making Ulysses seem an obscure and inaccessible work that could only be appreciated by American professors."

And now cholesterol-free milk

DECATUR, Georgia, June 16, (AP): Mathis Dairy thinks it has found a way to make some extra milk money from the millions of people who, for medical or other reasons, do not drink milk.

The suburban Atlanta dairy next week will begin selling a cholesterol-free milk product made by completely extracting the animal fat from the regular milk and replacing it with highly unsaturated vegetable oil.

Officials of the company told reporters Thursday that the technology for doing this has been in place for years but Mathis claims it is going to the market first time because it was discovered how to make a vegetable fat milk that tastes good.

The drink, which is not technically milk because it contains no milkfat, is targeted at a limited market — mainly people who are not drinking milk because they're on diets that restrict their cholesterol and animal fat intake.

Jack Mathis, vice-president of the dairy, said the new product is the latest attempt by the dairy industry to win back health-conscious consumers who are buying fewer of their products.

Latoya

'My body is bruised'

LONDON, June 16, (UPI): Latoya Jackson returned to London from Rome with two black eyes, sparking a variety of reports that the singer was either beaten up, the victim of a kidnapping attempt or both, the Daily Mail newspaper said yesterday.

The London tabloid said Latoya, Michael Jackson's sister, was injured while in Milan with her husband and manager, Jack Gordon, who said she was the target of a kidnapping attempt Tuesday in the northern Italian city.

It quoted Latoya as saying through her spokesman Richard Robinson: "I was beaten up in Milan two days ago — I don't want to talk about it."

Italian police have denied any reports of violence against Jackson, the Mail said.

Latoya also said 30 to 40 per cent of her body is covered in bruises and it is very difficult for her to move, Robinson told the Mail.

ANCHORAGE, Alaska: A temperance movement is making gains among Alaska's Eskimos, Indians and Aleut natives.

More than 100 villages with large Eskimo, Indian or Aleut populations have approved alcohol restrictions since 1980, when the legislature began enacting laws letting communities ban the sale, importation or possession of alcohol.

"Sobriety is not a dirty word any longer... There is a real spirit in the community that supports change," said Carla Bonney, health director for 800 Athabaskan Indians living in or near the village of Tanana, 130 miles (200 km) west of Fairbanks.

But temperance laws alone don't eliminate alcohol use. Bootlegging is rampant in remote areas where "dry" villages about "wet" villages, authorities say.

"Prohibition doesn't work," said Bonney. "It didn't work for the US in the 1920s. If people want to drink, they are going to find a way." (AP)

NAIROBI: A member of Kenya's ruling party has withdrawn a suggestion that people who flash the two-finger "V" sign in support of a multi-party system should have their fingers chopped off.

In recent months a two-finger salute in Kenya, which has a single political party, has become a call sign for pluralism.

Wilson Leitch, a local leader of the Kenya African National Union (KANU), said on Monday that party youth-wingers should hunt down people making the gesture and cut their fingers off.

Censured by party headquarters and in an editorial in one newspaper describing the advice as "deplorable, horrifying, outrageous," a chastened Leitch said on Wednesday.



Warren Beatty leaves his handprints in cement at Disney MGM Studios Theme Park June 14 as part of the world premier of his movie. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tells about how Americans live

Book on US culture

WASHINGTON, June 16, (Reuters): For number freaks, the annual US guide to American culture hit the bookstands on yesterday and it tells a lot about how Americans live — good and bad.

Called the "statistical abstract of the United States," this 991-page government publication printed for the last 110 years gives a flattering and not-so-flattering look at America.

Americans are smoking fewer cigarettes and drinking more beer. They are eating a lot of ice cream but skipping breakfast.

Perhaps because of this and the fact they eat 73 pounds (33 kg) of beef annually the average American is 30 per cent overweight.

But they are exercising — about 6.3 million people do calisthenics regularly. Nearly 11 million people jog.

In the compilation of over 75,000 statistics, the book shows that despite television, Americans are reading more and paying more to do it.

They spent \$1.7 million for \$570 million mass market paperbacks in 1988, compared to almost \$1 billion for 500 million popular paperbacks in 1980.

Traditionally the most popular of the government's reports, the "statistical abstract of the United States" is for sale at government book stores for \$28 in paperback, \$34 for clothbound copies.

160 held in gang sweep

LOS ANGELES, June 16, (AP): More 160 of the nation's street thugs were arrested in a two-day nationwide gang roundup targeting members of the violent Crips and Bloods, federal officials said yesterday.

Stephen E. Higgins, director of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said 11 states were involved in the operation, and more arrests and drug and weapons seizures were expected through the weekend.

"What began as a Los Angeles problem has now spread to a national one," he said. "This is a significant step to our commitment attacking drugs."

Arrests were made in California, Louisiana, Arizona, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon, Washington and four other states which were not immediately identified.

"Gang members are involved in murders, drive-by shootings, narcotics trafficking, assaults, credit card fraud, robberies and money laundering," Higgins said.

The bureau's national investigation revealed the Crips and Bloods are heavily involved in crack distribution and firearms trafficking, he said.

The largest narcotics seizure was nearly 13 pounds (six kilograms) of cocaine worth \$250,000 in Shreveport, Louisiana.

The operation began Thursday and continued yesterday. The majority of arrests were in southern California, where 134 people were taken into custody.

One for the heart \$7.5m to widow

NEW YORK, June 16, (AP): A Manhattan jury awarded more than \$7.5 million yesterday to the widow of a young actor stabbed to death nine years ago by killer-author Jack Henry Abbott, a protégé of writer Norman Mailer.

The jury of five women and one man awarded the money to Ricci Adan, 32, whose husband, Richard, 22, was knifed in the heart by Abbott outside the Bini-Bon restaurant on the New York's Lower East side on July 18, 1981.

Mrs Adan and her family sat quietly as the court clerk polled the jury at Abbott's request. Then, leaving the courtroom, they whooped, shouted and hugged each other in celebration of the verdict.

"It's been a nightmare," said Mrs Adan. Then she spoke of her slain husband. "He's not just a speck of dust anymore," she said. "He's not just victim, or a piece of paper. He's a human being. And he can rest now."

Abbott, 46, is serving a 15-year-to-life sentence on a first-

degree manslaughter conviction in Adan's death.

Naomi Zack, the state university of New York philosophy instructor he married last September while imprisoned, was not in court for the verdict. She had been present almost every day and was the only witness Abbott called.

Despite state Supreme Court Justice Carol Arber's offer of a court-appointed attorney, Abbott acted as his own lawyer during the two-week trial in defence against the wrongful death suit filed by Mrs Adan.

Abbott tried to convince the jury that Adan endured no pain and suffering because the single knife thrust through the heart killed him instantly.

"I'm no savage," Abbott explained. In a savage and "atrocious" murder, he explained, the killer tries to inflict maximum damage on his victim.

Abbott also disputed a Pace University economist's projections that Adan might have earned \$17 million as a successful actor by the time he was 65.

Aids patient shows progress

Blood-heating treatment

ATLANTA, June 16, (UPI): The second Aids patient to undergo an unproven blood-heating treatment showed early signs of improvement yesterday, his doctors said.

Tony Mascio, 38, a hospital administrator from Chicago who underwent the \$30,000 hyperthermia treatment at Atlanta hospital on Thursday, had an increase in the level of disease-fighting white blood cells in his body, they said.

"He looks good," said Dr Kenneth Alonso. "His vital signs are stable and his laboratory work looks reasonable. His white blood-cell count was 1,000 per cubic millimetre prior to surgery and today it's up to 4,300 per cubic millimetre."

A normal level of the disease-fighting white blood cells is about 5,000 per cubic millimetre of blood, he said.

Mascio was to remain in the hospital's intensive care unit for "at least a couple days," Alonso said. His condition was listed as stable.

The next important test of Mascio's progress will come in a few days when pathologists count the level of white blood cells called helper T-cells, a measure of the strength of the immune system.

The treatment involved heating Mascio's body to a 108 degrees Fahrenheit (42.2 C) for two hours by passing his blood through a machine, where it is heated to about 115 degrees F (46.1 C).

Trump: gone too far, too fast?

NEW YORK, June 16, (Reuters): Donald Trump's failure to make a key bond mortgage payment yesterday was the first concrete sign that the egotistical tycoon may have over-reached himself.

While he could still recover by refinancing, the business high-flyer who created and stuck his name on a tower, a plaza, a castle, a park, a shuttle and even a Taj Mahal is grounded.

Is he now fated to join a growing list of paper billionaires who move too far, too fast?

The last such on the North American scene was Canadian developer Robert Campeau, whose department store conglomerate collapsed into bankruptcy earlier this year.

Despite their different origins Campeau, from a humble French Canadian village family, and Trump, a smooth Manhattan socialite born with a silver spoon in his mouth, have more than a little in common.

Both scored spectacular coups in their specialty field, real estate. Both then jeopardised their futures and those of thousands of workers dependent upon them with ill-advised investments in other sectors.

Early successes launched Campeau and Trump into careers in which they were the central players in personalised private companies.

The charismatic, driven styles that won investors for their early deals also won backers when they strayed from the real estate they knew so well.

Trump's casino (The Taj Mahal) and airline (The Shuttle) and Campeau's plunge into retailing attracted billions of dollars in backing — even though the two were novices in those fields.

In the deregulated atmosphere of the Reagan era, bankers fell over each other to lend money and generate huge up-front fees for arranging big deals for charismatic characters like Campeau and Trump.

"Bankers got out of the habit of saying 'no' in the 1980s," said James Grant, editor of Grant's Interest Rate Observer.

He cited the crisis in the US savings and loan business as one legacy of the "anything goes" epoch. The failure of many of the 1980s tycoons is another.

Big crashes have also included those of Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur, and the Hunt Brothers of Texas.

For a time, Trump was such a symbol of success that he was touted as a possible contender for the White House — a suggestion he clearly relished.

When Trump, at his own expense, repaired in a few months an ice-skating rink in New York's Central Park that had been closed for six years of troubled city-funded renovation, he won a million dollars' worth of free publicity.

Financiers like to say that leverage provides a big lift on the way up and a hard kick on the way down. So does publicity.

Estrogen therapy lowers heart risk

Women with hysterectomies

GAITHERSBURG, Maryland, June 16, (UPI): Estrogen therapy lowers heart disease risk in post-menopausal women with hysterectomies, but more tests are needed to determine if the heart benefits outweigh other risks, a federal advisory panel concluded yesterday.

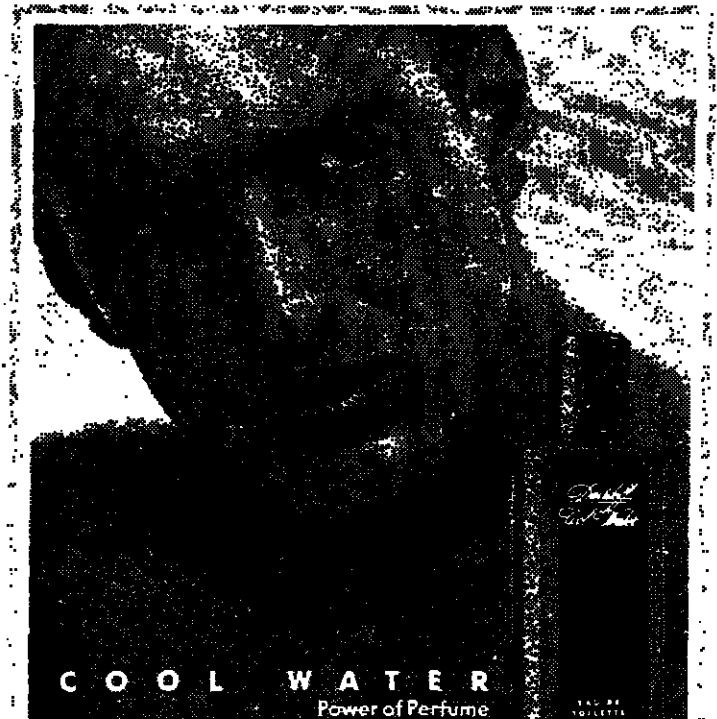
Estrogen, a hormone found in high levels in females of child-bearing age, is no longer produced in the uterus after a woman undergoes menopause. An estrogen supplement known as premarin, made from purified horse urine, is currently used to treat menopause-related symptoms like night sweats, hot flashes and brittle bone disease.

About 40 per cent of the 4 million to 5 million US women who use premarin had under-

gone hysterectomies before they started the hormone therapy. Because premarin increases the risk of uterine cancer in women, doctors generally do not give it to women who have not undergone hysterectomies unless no other treatment is available.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories of Philadelphia, which makes premarin, asked the Food and Drug Administration advisory committee to recommend the drug for treatment to reduce the risk of heart disease in post-menopausal women who have undergone hysterectomies.

"The rate of heart disease begins to rise rapidly after a woman reaches menopause," said Dr John Larosa of George Washington University.



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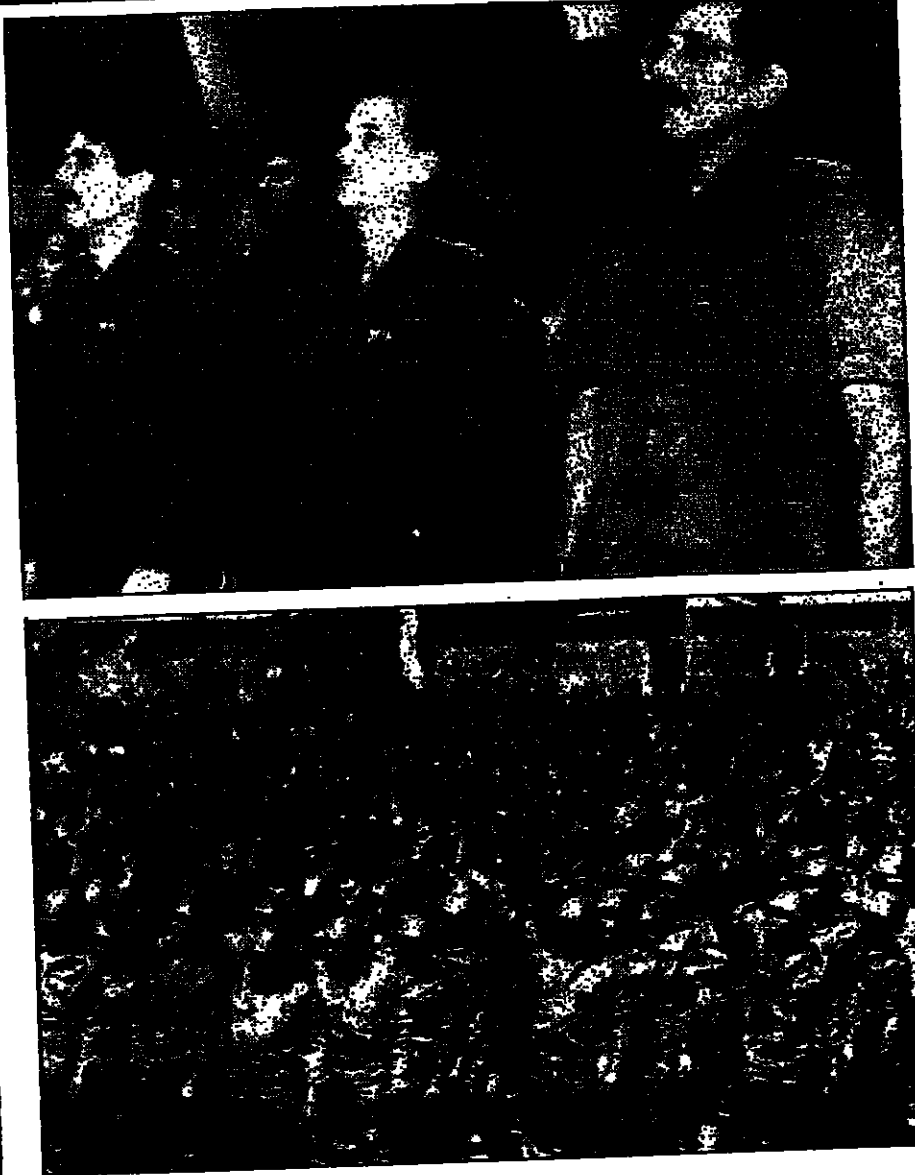
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INTERNATIONAL



Restructuring the army

Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro (left) reads an announcement June 15 in Managua, briefly specifying a plan to restructure the army and reduce it by 50 per cent. The plan includes the eventual removal of high level army officials although names and ranks were not mentioned. Members of the Sandinista Popular Army High Command General Humberto Ortega, (right) Major-General



eral Joaquin Cuadra and Colonel Javier Carrion (left) all shown in picture, right top, stand for the Nicaraguan national anthem in Managua during the ceremony. Right bottom: soldiers chanting slogans during a military parade in Managua. (Reuters wirephotos)

Managua plans to cut army by half

MANAGUA, June 16, (Reuters): President Violeta Chamorro has announced drastic cuts in the Nicaraguan Army, Central America's largest, and conditioned further reductions on neighbouring countries also reducing their forces.

Chamorro said in a speech on Friday that by the time her government completes its first 100 days in office on Aug 2, the army will be reduced to 41,000 men, half the size it was when she took office on April 25.

"I want a blessed nation that instead of burying its sons in a war between brothers, buries arms forever," Chamorro said in the speech attended by members of the army high command, her cabinet, Roman Catholic Church primate Cardinal Miguel Obando Y Bravo and Managua-based diplomats.

Top army officer General Humberto Ortega, who will remain in his post, said the Nicaraguan force now numbered about 60,000 having been cut from 96,660 men at the beginning of the year.

The Nicaraguan Army was formed by the leftist Sandinista government after the 1979 revolution ousted rightist dictator Anastasio Somoza.

During the height of the war against US backed Contra rebels the government force, still called the Popular Sandinista Army, grew to over 100,000 men armed with an array of Soviet-supplied weapons.

An estimated 30,000 people died in the war, which was fought throughout most of the 1980s.

Chamorro campaigned for the February 25 elections against the Sandinistas promising to end the war and "send all the weapons to the bottom of the sea."

The President said on Friday, "the war is behind us." She noted that 14,200 Contras had been disarmed and the full rebel force was due to be disbanded in the coming days.

Chamorro said more cuts will be made in the army, including the officer corps, after the force is reduced to 41,000 men.

But she said the size of further cuts would depend on accords on a "reasonable balance of forces" in Central America.

"A Central America in peace, in democracy and where all conflicts are resolved through dialogue does not need armies, neither large nor small," Chamorro said.

The remains of at least 10 people were found in an unmarked grave near a former Sandinista military base in northern Nicaragua, officials said.

"We think this is a clandestine cemetery," said human rights official Violeta Guevara. "What we need to find out is who did this."

Guevara said a 7-year-old boy was among the victims.

Two women said they recognized clothing worn by their sons when they disappeared seven years ago.

Shake-up of armed forces

Surprise Colombia move

BOGOTA, June 16, (Agencies): Colombia announced a surprise shake-up in the command of the armed forces yesterday, replacing three of the country's highest-ranking officers.

A decree signed by President Virgilio Barco named a new overall commander of the armed forces and new army and air force chiefs.

The three former commanders were transferred to the staffs of army and air force high commands, which effectively means retirement.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said he could not comment on the reason for the changes. Army watchers described the shakeup, less than two months before president-elect Cesar Gaviria is to take office, as surprising.

Some political analysts have said that instability in Colombia caused by the war against drug traffickers and left-wing guerrillas could create conditions for a military coup. But the spokesman strongly denied the changes were linked to coup fears.

The changes were announced shortly after Defence Minister Oscar Botero held talks with Gaviria, an anti-drug hardliner elected on May 27.

One military official said the shakeup was normal following an election.

But analysts said it was unusual for the changes to take place before the new president took office. Gaviria, who like Barco belongs to the Liberal Party, takes office on August 7.

The demoted officers were

armed forces commander General Jose Mejia Henao, army commander General Jesus Arias Cabrales and air force chief General Alfonso Amaya Maldonado.

Mejia was replaced by General Luis Eduardo Roca Maichel, current head of the joint chiefs of staff. Arias by his second-in-command Major-General Manuel Murillo, and Amaya by deputy air force chief Major General Manuel Jaime Forero.

The new commanders take office on Tuesday. The army prepared to send 500 more troops to Medellin and authorities considered slapping a curfew on the city yesterday after 21 people were killed in overnight gunfire.

Medellin Mayor Omar Florez told a Bogota radio station that authorities were considering imposition of a curfew following a night of killings of the kind that have become commonplace in the headquarters city of the Medellin cocaine cartel.

Medellin, 160 miles (260 km) northwest of Bogota, is considered one of the most violent cities in the world.

Police said 21 people were killed by gunmen in various attacks late Thursday and early Friday.

Medellin mayor called on the national government to declare his city an emergency zone so that it can receive aid to help end the terrorist attacks by drug traffickers.

"The violence let loose upon Medellin has left too many widows, orphans and a shattered economy," Omar Florez said.

Hasn't been allowed to reclaim belongings

Fans hang banners in support of Yoma

BUENOS AIRES, June 16, (UPI): The First Lady of Argentina has been unceremoniously tossed out of the presidential quarters by her husband, President Carlos Menem, but she apparently still has plenty of fans.

Supporters of Zulema Yoma De Menem hung banners outside the downtown Buenos Aires apartment where she has sought refuge with her daughter. Yesterday, she acknowledged the gesture with a smile and a polite "thank you."

Said one of the signs, "he who does not respect the mother of his children will not respect our moth-

erland."

Mrs Menem, 51, was evicted Tuesday from the presidential compound in the posh Buenos Aires suburb of Olivos, with a decree signed by her husband of 24 years. Her secretary, Marilu Giovanelli, said the first lady has still not been allowed to reclaim her belongings.

The couple has been feuding for years and speculation has run rampant about a divorce.

The 60-year-old president has said he wants to settle his marital problems "with decorum."

200 held, 60 hurt in Peru strike riot

LIMA, June 16, (Reuters): Striking hospital workers stormed Peru's Health Ministry yesterday and fought for four hours with police in the worst violence in a wave of strikes over the past few months.

Police said 60 people were injured, about 20 of them seriously, and at least 200 strikers were arrested. Lima police chief Oswaldo Diaz said he suspected leftist guerrillas were among the strikers.

Hundreds of strikers hurled bricks, bottles and furniture at police from windows and the roof-top of the building, shouting demands for wage increases, witness said.

Police surrounded the building with personnel carriers and used tear gas, birdshot and water cannon to evict the strikers and disperse scores of demonstrators outside.

Strikers later took to Lima streets, burning tyres and erecting roadblocks as police fired warning shots and lobbed tear gas at them.

The violence aggravated the political problems facing Labour Minister Wilfredo Chan, who had been sharply criticised for his handling of the strikes and for attending soccer matches while on a business trip.

Chan flew to Europe with the stated intention of leading Peru's delegation at a meeting of the International Labour Organisation in Geneva. Instead he was sighted at the World Cup finals in Italy.

'Reduce all armies'

Central Americans hold two-day summit

ANTIGUA, Guatemala, June 16, (UPI): Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, declaring her country would soon phase out its army, asked her Central American counterparts yesterday to do the same.

But the president of El Salvador, Alfredo Cristiani, said he could not even consider reductions in his army while a bloody civil war continues. The demilitarisation of Central America emerged at the last minute as a major topic for the two-day economic summit among the six Central American presidents.

Chamorro announced major reductions in the size of Nicaragua's

Sandinista Army, saying the ranks will be pared to a maximum of 41,000 members by next month.

Chamorro, speaking at the meeting in Antigua, a Spanish colonial town about 30 miles (50 km) from Guatemala City, said the reduction was only the first step toward a complete disarmament of Nicaragua's Sandinista Army.

"My country will do more (than the immediate reduction)," she said. "We will be like Costa Rica." Costa Rica has no army.

Chamorro said she would not formally propose a completely

demilitarised Central America, but added, "I would like all the Central American countries to proceed with the disarmament."

Cristiani said El Salvador's government had the will to reduce its armed forces, but added "we're not altogether in a position to do so" while the 10-year-old civil war against leftist rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front continues.

"Chamorro has demobilised practically all the resistance in her country. She can start reductions," Cristiani said in reference to the disarming of the US-backed Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

He also indicated that El Salvador would not be interested in the eventual elimination of its army, favouring instead "a normal-sized armed force for peacetime and to support the democratic process."

Demilitarisation is likely to confront stiff opposition in countries like El Salvador and Guatemala, where the armies wield considerable power and control over government policies.

Cristiani said talks between the Salvadoran government and rebels are scheduled for next week in Mexico City, adding he hopes "a calendar can be established" for a ceasefire and disarming of the rebels.

Honduran President Rafael Callejas stopped short of supporting a Central America without armies but said there was a need for reduction.

"It is necessary for Central America to re-evaluate the role of its armed forces," he said.

"We have cut our Army by 10 per cent this year, and we have the smallest army in Central America. If we are talking about integration this is one thing that must be included," Callejas said.

Callejas says Central America needs \$2.25 billion over the next three years to begin rebuilding.

"The international community and the Western world should channel these resources to Central America," he said at a news conference in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa this week.

Callejas will be meeting in this colonial city 27 miles (43 km) from the capital with presidents Alfredo Cristiani of El Salvador, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro of Nicaragua, Rafael Calderon of Costa Rica and Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala.

The Central America leaders, concerned about competing demands from Eastern Europe, are encouraged by Baker's decision to come to Antigua.

Cerezo called it a "demonstration that North America is interested in us, that it hasn't forgotten Central America."

Baker also will meet with Panamanian President Guillermo Endara.

For the first time in recent history all the presidents in the region hold their offices because of democratic elections. Most have been in office less than a year.

Before leaving office last month, former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias warned that peace depends on prosperity.

"It will not be possible to consolidate the democracies that have emerged in Central America unless we're successful in the economic and social fields," said Arias, the architect of the peace plan.

Panamanian President Guillermo Endara said he favoured a demilitarised Panama. "Panama cannot, should not, ever have another Army."

"There is a new constitutional reform that specifically establishes this," he said.

Endara was installed during the US invasion last December that ousted dictator Manuel Noriega.

ANTIGUA, Guatemala, June 16 (AP): Here are some statistics from the World Bank on the five Central American nations holding an economic summit and on Panama, which is attending as an observer.

Costa Rica
Population: 2.7 million
Per capita income: \$1,760
GNP: \$4.69 billion
Infant mortality: 18 per 1,000
Illiteracy: 6 per cent
Daily calories available per capita: 2,803
Life expectancy: 74 years

El Salvador
Population: 5 million
Per capita income: \$950
GNP: \$4.7 billion
Infant mortality: 59 per 1,000
Illiteracy: 28 per cent
Calories per capita: 2,160
Life expectancy: 63 years

Guatemala
Population: 8.7 million
Per capita income: \$880
GNP: \$7.62 billion
Infant mortality: 59 per 1,000 births
Illiteracy: 45 per cent
Calories per capita: 2,307
Life expectancy: 62 years

Honduras

Population: 4.8 million
Per capita income: \$850
GNP: \$4.11 billion
Infant mortality: 69 per 1,000 births
Illiteracy: 41 per cent
Calories per capita: 2,068
Life expectancy: 64 years

Nicaragua

Population: 3.6 million people in an area about the size of Iowa
Per capita income: \$830
GNP: \$2.9 billion
Infant mortality: 62 per 1,000 births
Illiteracy: 13 per cent
Calories per capita: 2,495
Life expectancy: 64 years

Panama

Population: 2.3 million
Per capita income: \$5,091
GNP: \$5 billion
Infant mortality: 23 per 1,000 births
Illiteracy rate: 12 per cent
Calories per capita: 2,446
Life expectancy: 71 years

In comparison with the richest and poorest nations in the hemisphere, the per capita income in the United States is \$20,000 a year, the infant mortality rate is 10 per 1,000 births and the average life expectancy is 75 years.



Protest

A plain-clothes policeman beats a student during a demonstration in Asuncion on June 14. The protest was called by the University Students Federation which is demanding the resignation of the Interior Minister Gen. Orlando Machuca Vargas. Several students were injured but no arrests were made. (Reuters wirephoto)

Manitoba Indian threatens accord

Blocks action on Meech Lake

WINNIPEG, June 16, (AP): A lone Indian legislator has the support of other Canadian Indians in his opposition to a constitutional accord some say is necessary to national unity.

Provincial political leaders in Manitoba say Elijah Harper's legislative stalling may well kill the accord's chances of being ratified before the June 23 deadline.

Manitoba and Newfoundland are the only two of Canada's ten provinces yet to ratify the accord. The accord was ratified unanimously yesterday in New Brunswick.

In an attempt to bring Quebec into the accord, the provincial premiers and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney reached the Meech Lake Accord — named for the lake resort near Ottawa where it was signed. Meech Lake gives special recognition to Quebec's culture and language, but Indians criticise it because it lacks provisions for their unique status.

"We've got to have the courage to go all the way," Harper told a crowd of supporters at Winnipeg's convention centre yesterday afternoon.

Harper, the only Indian member of the Manitoba legislature, has used procedural rules to block action on Meech Lake.

"The accord as it is, unacceptable," said Phil Fontaine, president of the assembly of Manitoba chiefs. "We want to be recognised for who we are, a distinct people which represents a fundamental characteristic of Canada."

Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa issued a thinly veiled threat to Harper yesterday, saying if Manitoba natives thwart the Meech Lake accord, aboriginal people will lose Quebec's support for their concerns.

"There will be no winners," if the accord is scuttled, Bourassa said. "Neither the natives nor Canada nor any province will win from such a situation."

Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon said he had spoken with Mulroney and said the prime minister was deeply concerned about the deadlock.

Prince Edward's Island Premier Joe Ghiz says there now appears to be only one way to save the Meech Lake accord. Every province must pass a constitutional amendment postponing the ratification date.

Wright house, wrong ground

MOUNT VERNON, Virginia, June 16, (AP): It was built against the odds in 1940 and saved from destruction 25 years ago. Now, a lovingly preserved Frank Lloyd Wright house faces a new threat: Shifting ground is tearing it apart.

And it will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to save the house, which originally cost only \$7,000 to build.

In 1963, the little house in rural Virginia lay in the path of progress: A new highway. The home's owners, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, teamed up to move it, board by board, to a site several miles (kilometres) away.

That act of salvage could lead to the home's deterioration.

The Pope-Leigh house, built in 1940 and named for its first and second owners, was rebuilt in 1964 on a seam of highly unstable clay.

"It's fair to say when the house was moved and reconstructed, we didn't know as much... as we do today," said Linda Cunningham Goldstein, who runs the house as a museum.

Cracks more than an inch (2.5 centimetres) wide, snake through the concrete floors. Smaller cracks are visible in the walls of one bedroom.

The National Trust — a non-profit organisation dedicated to saving historic buildings — has considered numerous ideas for rescuing the house a second time. Engineers and trust officials have largely ruled out another move.

Salvadoran officer testifies in secrecy

Burning of evidence in Jesuits case

SAN SALVADOR, June 16, (UPI): A Salvadoran Army officer suspected of ordering the destruction of evidence in the murders of six Jesuit priests and two household employees last November testified in secret yesterday before a civilian judge.

The sworn testimony of Lieut Col Carlos Camilo Hernandez was taken in the closed chambers of Judge Ricardo Zamora at the 4th penal court and no details were released immediately.

Hernandez was called to testify about the destruction of log books at the Salvadoran military academy, from

where soldiers are said to have launched the operation last Nov 19 in which the six priests, their housekeeper and her 15-year-old daughter were slain.

At the time of the killings, Hernandez was second in command at the military academy. He has since been promoted from major to lieutenant colonel and is second in command of an elite army battalion.

Hernandez' immediate superior at the military academy, Col Guillermo Alfredo Benavides, has been charged with ordering the priests' murders.

Three lieutenants and four lower-ranking soldiers have been arrested and charged with murder in the case. A ninth soldier charged in the case is a fugitive.

Hernandez has not been charged in the case, but two other men, including one of the lieutenants accused of leading the mission, have testified that he ordered the burning of log books that Zamora later requested as evidence.

The logs would have shown who entered and left the military academy on the night of the killings.



Salvadoran soldiers walk past the body of a FMLN rebel June 15 killed several hours earlier during heavy combat. (Reuters wirephoto)



Hernandez (left) arrives at a San Salvador courthouse June 14 with one of his defence lawyers.

\$40,000 reward for drug dealers who see the light, obey the law

SALEM, Oregon, June 16, (UPI): Oregon authorities have developed a controversial new weapon in the war on drugs: financial rewards for dealers who see the light and obey the law.

As part of a settlement in a civil racketeering lawsuit, the Oregon department of justice recently required a convicted cocaine dealer to put \$40,000 in a trust fund controlled by the state.

If the dealer, Douglas Shawn Adams, has any new drug convictions in the next three years he automatically forfeits the money to

the state. But if his record stays clean, Adams gets the money back.

"The theory... is that if the purpose behind the racketeering and forfeiture statutes is to get the profit out of crime, the flip side of this is to give the guy some incentive to go straight," said Tim Wood, a lawyer in the Justice Department. "Sometimes a carrot together with the club is the best way to solve the problem."

But the US attorney for Oregon said the deal amounts to paying someone to obey the law — a poor precedent.

"I won't do that," said Charles Turner.

"I'm not going to try to pay somebody to do something they are supposed to do in the first place. We don't pay private citizens to pay their property taxes."

The case reflects a growing effort to take the profit out of crime by using civil racketeering laws in drug cases. So-called Rico statutes, which exist in about half the states, allow authorities to seize property involved in criminal activity.

But in most Rico cases, defendants don't get a chance to recover money taken by the state.

In fact, officials at the US Department of Justice and the National Association of Attorneys general said they knew of no other cases where drug dealers set aside cash that could be recovered later if they had no new convictions.

"I'd have to say that is unique," said Bud Hollis, who oversees a federal programme that provided Oregon and three other states — Arizona, Washington and Colorado — with grants for creative uses of civil racketeering laws against drug dealers. "I've never heard of that before."

Wood said the Adams case is the first where the Oregon department has required a drug dealer to put up cash that can be recovered later, although the general concept has been used before. For example, he said the department has put lines on property with a condition of automatic foreclosure if the owner committed more drug offences.

Adams, 34, was arrested in March. He pleaded guilty in June to two counts of delivering cocaine, and in return prosecutors agreed to dismiss a third charge. He has yet to be sentenced.

After his arrest, Adams also was hit with the state's civil racketeering lawsuit, which alleged he was part of an organised ring that sold cocaine in Oregon for the last five years.

To settle the civil suit, Adams agreed to forfeit to the state \$91,382 and a 1987 four-wheel-drive vehicle, and to create the \$40,000 trust fund.

He will get the \$40,000 back unless he is found to have committed a drug offence between June 1, 1990, and June 1, 1993. The state can also take up to \$15,000 of the money for back taxes.

GDR nabs terrorist

West Germany to seek extradition of RAF suspect

EAST BERLIN, June 16, (AP): East German authorities caught a reputed leftist terrorist linked to the 1985 bombing of a US air base in West Germany and the deaths of three Americans, officials said today.

The arrest brings to seven the number of alleged Red Army Faction members to be captured in East Germany in the last 10 days. The string of arrests is the result of a recent push by officials in both German states to locate long-sought terrorist suspects who received sanctuary under East Germany's former communist regime.

Sigrid Sternebeck, 40, was arrested last night in an East German

town near the Polish border, East German and West German authorities said.

Ms Sternebeck is charged with the slaying of US army soldier Edward Pimental in Wiesbaden, West Germany, in August 1985, said Hans-Juergen Foerster of the West German federal prosecutor's office.

Pimental was lured out of a bar by a woman and was found the next day, shot through the head. The Red Army Faction (RAF) leader claimed responsibility for the killing.



Barbara and Horst Meyer shown in a police handout. The Meyers are believed to have led the RAF in the 1980s and are prime suspects in all the group's attacks in recent years. (Reuter wirephoto)

Price of cocaine rising sharply

NEW YORK, June 16, (UPI): The wholesale price of cocaine is rising sharply in some US cities, the New York Times reported.

The newspaper said the trend — a first in almost 10 years — suggests extensive law-enforcement efforts in the United States and Latin America may finally be reducing the availability of the drug.

The Times said in New York and Los Angeles, wholesale cocaine prices have jumped by more than 40 per cent since December.

And diluted cocaine has been turned up in many cities, suggesting diminished supplies, the Times quotes federal officials and drug specialists saying.

"There's enough smoke out there to cause us to realise that something... is happening," Terrence Burke, the acting head of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), told the Times. "We haven't seen signs like these up till now. We're not quite sure, but it's our hope and belief that there's a good possibility that this has been because of law enforcement action."

Some sceptical federal drug officials say, however, they suspect the South American smuggling organisations may be holding back on sales to drive up profits, or may be using the news of drug seizures and other police operations to justify price increases.

The rise comes just as some social scientists say they are seeing signs that the hard-core use of cocaine — mainly crack — may be declining in the inner cities, the Times said.

One indicator is a report from the National Institute on Drug Abuse in Washington that describes a sharp drop in patients being treated in emergency rooms for reactions to cocaine in the last quarter of 1989, the Times reported.

"We could be on the verge of turning the corner," Mark A.R. Kleiman, an expert on drug policy at the John F. Kennedy school of government at Harvard University, told the Times.

In New York, DEA officials say, undercover agents several times have been offered cocaine at \$32,000 to \$36,000 per kilo, compared with a high of \$25,000 per kilo in December. In Los Angeles, the wholesale price is as high as \$23,000 per kilo in contrast to \$16,000 at the start of the year.

In Baltimore, the cost of a kilo of cocaine rose from a high of \$17,000 in September to \$22,000 in December, and has now climbed to \$24,000. In Chicago, a kilogramme is selling for as much as \$32,000, up from \$26,000 at the start of the year.

Prices for individual customers on the streets in those cities have not increased, police and federal agents told the Times. But the Times reported that federal officials say they are seeing indications that dealers are effectively raising their street prices by diluting their products.



Ruth Larson of Pittsburgh (right) removes her pet parrot along with some help from her friend Joanna Scanlon who carried some of Ruth's personal belongings from her flooded mobile home in Marne, Ohio, June 15. More than 100 homes were damaged and 40 destroyed after four and a half inches of rain fell in less than two hours of flash floods. (Reuter wirephoto)

16 die in Ohio floods

Wall of water leaves 50 missing

SHADYSIDE, Ohio, June 16, (AP): Torrential thunderstorms sent a flash flood surging through a valley into this Ohio river town, killing at least 16 people and leaving scores missing or homeless yesterday, authorities said.

Raging floodwaters late Thursday swept homes off foundations and washed away cars.

"The valleys are choked with debris," Ohio's Governor, Richard Celeste, said after flying over the hilly Appalachian region. "A wall of water wiped a path through the area."

Celeste declared a state of emergency and dispatched about 30 national guardsmen to the area.

Fourteen adults and two children were confirmed dead, said fire chief Mark Badia. About 50 people were missing, he said.

Most of the bodies were found floating in the water or in cars buried in mud, a fire-fighter said. Two bodies were found in the Ohio river.

Rescue crews from Ohio, West Virginia, the US Coast Guard and the National Guard were searching for more bodies in the Ohio river and two creeks that feed it.

Thursday night's thunderstorms caused flash flooding across a wide area of central and eastern Ohio, northern West Virginia and western Pennsylvania. The flood closed roads, damaged homes and forced hundreds of people to evacuate.

But no place was hit with anything approaching the ferocity of the flooding in Shadyside.

About 5.5 inches (14 centimetres) of rain fell in less than four hours, turning the two creeks outside the village of 4,300 people into raging torrents.

At least five houses along Wegee Creek were washed away, and two cars were floating in water in one of the

basements that was exposed. Virtually everything that was still standing was covered with at least 6 feet (2 metres) of debris, including trees, appliances and furniture.

The federal emergency management agency declared Belmont county, which includes Shadyside, and Jefferson and Franklin counties disaster areas, making federal aid available to residents. Seventeen counties now have been declared disaster areas because of flooding or tornadoes since May 29.

At mid-afternoon, the Shadyside fire department posted a list of missing containing 60 names.

About 35 buildings, including a tavern, were damaged along Wegee Creek, and 30 buildings were hit by a flood along nearby Pipe Creek, said Dick Quinlin, Belmont county emergency services co-ordinator.

Part of the town was washed away when water caved in the back wall, said Judy Phillips, a sheriff's department spokeswoman. She said two patrons were accounted for, but she could offer no estimate of how many were inside at the time.

One man was found clinging to a bar stool, said State Sen. Robert Ney, whose district includes Shadyside.

"I've never seen anything of this magnitude. There was no warning," Ney said.

Sixteen people were confirmed dead, Shadyside police said.

There was no complete accounting of deaths, said Karen Bovek, a spokeswoman at a Shadyside fire department command centre set up at a school.

At least 25 people were evacuated during the night in the Pittsburgh suburb of Etna, said borough manager Bill Skerich. They returned to their homes yesterday. Landslides and street closures were also reported.

Crews spray oil-eating microbes

Supertanker fire put out

GALVESTON, Texas, June 16, (AP): The fire that had burned for a week on the Norwegian supertanker Mega Borg was extinguished yesterday, but officials said it could flare again.

Crews yesterday began spraying oil-eating microbes into the Gulf of Mexico waters surrounding the Mega Borg in the first open-sea release of the bacteria to clean up a spill.

The coast guard boosted its estimate of the amount of oil released into the Gulf of Mexico to 4.3 million gallons (16 million litres), making it the nation's fifth largest spill.

Some of the oil was skimmed from the surface and the coast guard said most of the light African crude evaporated or burned. Less than 20,000 gallons (83,600 litres) remained in the water, the coast guard said.

The worst oil spill in US history was last year when the Exxon Valdez ran aground, spilling nearly 11 million gallons (42 million litres) of heavy crude on the Prince William Sound in Alaska.

The oil spilled from the Mega Borg after an as yet unexplained explosion set the ship afire last week. The fire was extinguished last afternoon, but officials said they would have to wait at least 24 hours for the ship to cool before removing the remaining oil. The ship could catch fire again, coast guard petty officer Todd Nelson said.

The coast guard had said the first tar balls from the leaking Norwegian supertanker could wash ashore late Friday on Bolivar peninsula, across the bay from Galveston island. But

county officials said they had no unusual reports of oil on shore.

"We don't anticipate the oil will come before Sunday. We're prepared," said Galveston city manager Doug Matthews.

Crews on four fireboats also continued spraying water on the ship, which exploded and caught fire late last Friday, 57 miles (90 kms) off Galveston. Grey smoke spewed from the rear section of the vessel.

More than two dozen smaller boats used skimming devices to suck up or corral the rusty brown oil trailing from the tanker. Salvage crews said they had skimmed 146,389 gallons (556,278 litres) of oil.

Officials working on a coast guard boat mixed bacteria with sea water and sprayed it on a section of the 30-mile (48-km) - long slick.

EEC plans force to combat trafficking

DUBLIN, June 16, (Reuters): The European Economic Community (EEC), wary that lowered borders could bring more crime, pledged yesterday to launch a major crackdown on drug traffickers and terrorists.

Irish Justice Minister Ray Burke said that he and his EEC colleagues had agreed to set up a European central drugs intelligence unit and a computerised police information system to help combat organised crime.

"International terrorism and organised crime will seek to exploit greater freedom of movement and of communication for ends inimical to the rights and freedoms of the community at large," the justice and interior ministers said in a statement after two days of talks in Dublin castle.

The EEC, acutely aware of security problems posed by the move towards a barrier-free Europe after 1992, also pledged to give police training to officers from drug-producing and transit countries. A first seminar will be held in Lyons, France, later this year.

The ministers said they studied the possibility of allowing EEC police to chase suspects across borders "in hot pursuit", displaying posters of wanted terrorists at frontiers and pooling police resources on how best to protect airports, railway stations and ferries from terrorist attack.

Some measures would require international agreements, they said.

Eleven of the 12 EEC states also signed a ground-breaking convention to ensure that applications for political asylum in the community will be processed by one single member state.

In particular, the convention is aimed at avoiding the possibility of "refugees in orbit" being sent from one member state to another. Denmark did not sign the convention but Burke said he was confident it would do so. "It will be left open for them to sign by the end of the year," he said.

"The convention represents a significant advance in providing the member states with an orderly method of dealing with those who apply for the protection of the Geneva asylum convention and is in keeping with their long tradition of humanitarian treatment of those in need of protection from persecution."

France, West Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands are due next week to sign a landmark accord on easing their border controls.

The accord was set up as a dry-run for the European Economic Community project to scale down internal borders after 1992.

Mayors rap federal policies

CHICAGO, June 16, (AP): Billions of dollars for banks and drugs and pennies for jobs and housing is no way to run a country, the nation's mayors said yesterday in a bitter attack on the federal government.

"Federal policy towards our cities and towards economic opportunity today is as bankrupt as the corrupt savings and loans (banks) which are robbing out young people's future," Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn said at the opening session of the mayors' annual.

"While we waited at Washington's back door for a few crumbs for urban America, these bandits heisted over \$300 billion from our nation's treasury," Flynn said.

"These are funds that could have been used for job training, for college scholarships, for helping young families buy their first home, as well as building a national economy set to compete with Europe and Japan."

Ironically, the savings and loan industry's trade group was meeting elsewhere in the same Chicago hotel.

Flynn's remarks opened a joint meeting of the US conference of mayors task forces on drug abuse and homelessness. Flynn, chairman of the task force on the homeless, and several other mayors said tensions are on the rise in American cities.

17 bosses run Italy's mafia: Sica reports

ROME, June 16, (Reuters): Italy's mafia is organised by 17 bosses and more than 16,000 people are suspected of links with organised crime, the country's top gang-busting official said in a report made public today.

Anti-Mafia High Commissioner Domenico Sica told a parliamentary committee that capture of the bosses would "disrupt and cause confusion inside the organised crime societies."

The 99-page report was Sica's first detailed account of the battle against the mafia since he was appointed in 1988 to attack organised crime and end rivalries among various authorities.

It said more than 16,000 people in Italy were kept under surveillance by police on suspicion of associating with the mafia and about 800 firms were suspected of collaborating with organised crime.

Culvert collapses

Hole in Bristol canal

BRISTOL, June 16, (AP): Nearly a million people have been asked to conserve water after farmers failed to block a hole in a canal that supplies Bristol and surrounding communities.

A culvert collapsed Thursday night beneath the Gloucester and Sharpness canal north of this city of about 375,000 located about 100 miles (170 kms) west of London.

Farmers threw straw bales, barrels and an old farm gate wrapped in plastic into the whirlpool created by water rushing through the hole, but could not stem the leak.

The collapse of the culvert allowed more than a 1 million gallons (4 million litres) of water to escape.

"It was like a bath without the plug in, but on an enormous scale," said Jeremy Williams, spokesman for the Bristol water company. "The canal is our biggest source of water and provides half our supplies."

The house had been occupied until three weeks ago by Lord McAlpine, a former deputy chairman and treasurer of the Conservative Party.

The explosion tore a three foot (one metre) hole in the front of the beautifully restored mansion, demolished part of a garden wall and left a crater in the gravel drive.

The outlawed IRA, in a new and bloody offensive aimed mainly at British targets outside Northern Ireland, has killed seven people in the past few weeks and mounted half a dozen attacks in England.

The mainly Roman Catholic organisation is waging a violent campaign to end British rule in the predominantly Protestant province of Northern Ireland and unite it with the Republic of Ireland.

A federal court jury returned no verdict yesterday in its first deliberating evidence against three people accused of conspiring to smuggle advanced weapons to the Irish Republican Army.

The bombing of the 18th-century mansion, West Green House, in the southern English village of Hartley Wintney, blew out windows and part of the front of the red brick home on Tuesday.

The IRA, battling to oust Britain from Northern Ireland, has recently stepped up its campaign against British Army bases in West Germany.

Two weeks ago IRA gunmen shot dead a British major in Dortmund.

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Blacks stage rallies to mark 1976 uprising

20,000 pack Soweto stadium; police disperse Johannesburg marchers

JOHANNESBURG, June 16, (AP): Blacks staged rallies nation-wide today to mark the 14th anniversary of the Soweto student uprisings that sparked riots and spawned a generation of militant anti-apartheid activists.

For the first time since the 1976 riots, widespread demonstrations were permitted on "Soweto Day" without major police intervention.

About 20,000 blacks packed a Soweto stadium to observe "Soweto Day," June 16, 1976, when police opened fire on black students protesting the education policies of white-ruled South Africa.

"The youth of Soweto is now a great symbol of resistance and defiance throughout the

world," African National Congress leader Walter Sisulu told the crowd.

Soweto, about 15 kms (10 miles) outside Johannesburg, is the country's largest black township with some 2.5 million residents.

The 1976 police shootings in Soweto touched off an unprecedented wave of unrest that spread throughout the country and lasted several months. Some 500 to 700 blacks died and thousands fled the country to join the ANC.

"Fourteen years ago we mourned and complained, but today we are counting our victories," ANC spokesman Popo Molefe told tens of thousands of blacks at a rally outside the southern city of Port Elizabeth.



Pope John Paul II poses with Mandela and wife Winnie at the Vatican June 15. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ire at White House remark on CIA role

US awaits Mandela

JOHANNESBURG, June 16, (AP): A hero's welcome awaits Nelson Mandela in the United States, where the black nationalist leader will lobby for continued sanctions against South Africa and millions of dollars in support for the anti-apartheid movement.

Since his release Feb 11 after more than 27 years in prison, Mandela has been cheered at rallies across Africa and Europe.

A jubilant reception is expected in the United States for the deputy president of the African National Congress. He is especially revered among blacks who waged the civil rights battle of the 1960s.

President George Bush and Congress will receive Mandela in Washington during his eight-day, 10-day visit, which begins Wednesday in New York and features parades, rallies and a speech at the United Nations.

The other cities on his itinerary are Boston, Atlanta, Miami, Detroit, Los Angeles and Oakland, California.

Mandela's chief mission is to lobby the US government to maintain the limited economic sanctions imposed in 1986 after protests of South African policies of apartheid, or forced segregation.

He also may have an effect on US politics. The New York Times and the Washington Post reported last week that the Bush administration has intensified efforts to reach a compromise with Congress on civil rights leg-

islation, partly to avoid debate that would coincide with Mandela's visit.

The administration has said employers would be forced to adopt racial hiring quotas by the legislation, which is aimed at making it easier for workers to bring and win discrimination cases.

American politicians, movie stars, businessmen and black organisations all are scrambling to share in the glow of Mandela's fame. But Mandela has remained modest, and acknowledges debts to US supporters of the anti-apartheid movement.

"The blacks in the United States have been in the front lines of the struggle against apartheid," he said recently. "The (US) government itself would not have taken the steps which they have adopted if there was no pressure from the masses of Americans."

American public pressure has contributed to the withdrawal of more than half of the 300 US companies that were operating in South Africa since the mid-1980s. Many US universities and municipal governments have withdrawn investments in companies that remain.

Organisers of Mandela's trip to the United States have said that White House comments on the role of the CIA in Mandela's arrest 27 years ago were unacceptable.

"I find the answer of press secretary (Marlin) Fitzwater to

be unacceptable," said Roger Wilkins, national co-ordinator of the Nelson Mandela welcome committee.

"It (the report of CIA involvement in Mandela's arrest) is a matter of some seriousness. The report clearly does not appear to be out of character for the CIA we knew in the 1960s because we do now know of attempts at least on the life of Patrice Lumumba and attempts on the life of Fidel Castro," Wilkins said.

Wilkins, currently with the liberal institute for policy studies, worked for the John Kennedy administration at roughly the same time as the alleged Central Intelligence Agency incident occurred.

According to reports by Cox newspapers published over the weekend, a CIA tip to South African security forces led to the arrest of Mandela, then underground and organising the military wing of the ANC, on Aug 5, 1962, and his subsequent 27 years in prison.

On Tuesday, Fitzwater played down the reports, saying, "we find no value in reviewing the 30-year-old history in this case."

"If you want to know what happened, ask Pierre Salinger, Ted Sorenson or Ted Kennedy," he said, referring to high ranking Kennedy administration aides and the president's brother.

But Wilkins described such remarks as "Cavalier" and "rude to my guest... I want better answers than that."

Fiery Winnie turns demure

JOHANNESBURG, June 16, (AP): Nelson Mandela is taking centre stage during his lobbying mission for black nationalism in South Africa, but controversy still swirls around his wife.

Winnie Mandela will accompany her husband on his eight-day, 10-day tour of the United States, which starts Wednesday in New York.

The woman who once shouted down police and was accused of beating men with whips, has been standing demurely by his side during the couple's tours of Africa and Europe.

A year ago, some of South Africa's most prominent anti-apartheid leaders denounced Winnie, accusing her of "violating human rights in the name of the struggle against apartheid."

The South African attorney-general is considering whether to prosecute Winnie in connection with a case of kidnapping and assault in which one of the victims later was found dead.

Her former chief bodyguard, Jerry Richardson, has been convicted of kidnapping, assault, and murder in connection with the stabbing death of a 14-year-old black activist, James "Stompie" Moeketsi Seipei.

He was abducted Dec 29, 1988, and his body recovered eight days later.

Three black men testified at Richardson's trial that they and the teenager were abducted, taken to Winnie's home and beaten by her, who then let her bodyguards continue the assaults.

The judge ruled their testimony had "the ring of truth."

The trial of Winnie's former driver and seven others who stayed at her home originally was scheduled for May 29, but has been postponed until September, said Klaus von Lieres Und Wilkins, attorney-general for the Johannesburg region.

He said his office "has reserved a decision on whether to prosecute" Winnie.

Winnie was under police restrictions almost continuously from 1963 to 1986, was arrested numerous times and held in solitary confinement for 17 months in 1969-70.

During nationwide unrest from 1984-87, she appeared at the funerals of slain activists and gave militant speeches, urging blacks to harbour guerrilla fighters and take the "armed struggle" to white neighbourhoods.

Without explaining why, the government lifted her restrictions on movement and speech in 1986, shortly after she told a rally, "With our boxes of matches and our necklaces, we shall liberate this country."

It was an endorsement of the gruesome "necklace" killings in which militants set burning, gasoline-soaked fires around the necks of black political opponents, policemen and their families.

The African National Congress in exile disavowed the statement by the wife of its effective leader.

Exiled members of the African National Congress said Thursday they have returned to South Africa to reform their defunct Women's League and make sure women's rights are addressed in negotiations on a new constitution.

JOHANNESBURG, June 16, (AP): South African singer Miriam Makeba said many changes have come to her homeland in her 31 years of exile, but that it pains her to see "apartheid is still alive."

"I can come home, but I cannot vote," the 58-year-old star told reporters after her return for a weeklong visit to be with her family and to pray at her mother's gravesite.

She noted that laws remain intact restricting black land ownership and enforc-

The ANC, the country's largest black opposition group, was legalised in February after being banned for 30 years.

Dozens of events were held today around the country, most of them planned by the ANC and the rival Pan Africanist Congress.

President F.W. de Klerk lifted the 4-year-old state of emergency in most of the country a week ago. Since last year he has allowed peaceful protests that have official permission.

In one incident in downtown Johannesburg, police fired tear gas to disperse a few dozen black demonstrators who they said did not have permission to protest. A black journalist was detained, witnesses said.

In the central town of Welkom, about 250 members of a white supremacist group, the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, marched to protest the detention without charge of two whites.

Members dressed in Khaki uniforms gave stiff-armed, Nazi-style salutes and chanted, "hang (Nelson) Mandela" in reference to the revered black nationalist leader. They then marched to a nearby police station and handed in a petition protesting the detentions.

The two men are being held in connection with separate bomb attacks in Pretoria and Welkom, but no one has been charged in either case.

The 1976 protests were sparked by a government policy to teach classes in Afrikaans rather than English. Afrikaans is the language of the Dutch-descended Afrikaners who dominate the government and many blacks consider it the "language of the oppressor."

Every year since 1976 blacks have observed June 16 as an unofficial holiday. Most blacks stay home from school and work.

The ANC said that the inferior black education system that sparked the 1976 unrest still exists. Black teachers are holding strikes and protests throughout the country and some black schools in urban areas have been closed for much of the year.



Rebel forces belonging to Taylor board a church truck. They are shown loading heavy machine-guns and shells on June 13. (Reuters wirephoto)

Doe bids ceasefire

Liberia peace talks continue

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone, June 16, (AP): The Liberian government today proposed a 30-day cease-fire in its 5-1/2-month-old civil war with rebel forces.

The National Patriotic Front rebels repeatedly have demanded that President Samuel K. Doe resign and leave Liberia before a truce can begin, and there was no indication they were prepared to compromise.

Doe has steadfastly refused to resign.

The Liberian Council of Churches, which is mediating the 5-day-old peace talks in the capital of neighbouring Sierra Leone, has been pushing for a ceasefire in fighting which has claimed more than 1,000 lives.

Most of the victims have been civilians.

"There has been very little progress made so far," said a US embassy source, who declined to be further identified.

The United States is not participating directly in the talks, but the meetings are being held in an embassy building.

Through the two sides have failed to agree on a ceasefire, there has been no new fighting reported in the past week.

The government regained control of the US-managed Bridgestone-Firestone rubber plantation outside the Liberian capital, Monrovia, and the nearby Robertsfield International Airport before fighting died down.

The 120,000-acre (48,560-hectare) rubber plantation,

the world's largest, is operated by Bridgestone-Firestone Inc., a US-based subsidiary of Japan's Bridgestone company.

Though the airport remains closed, its recapture by government troops was the first major setback for the rebels since they invaded from neighbouring Ivory Coast on Dec 24.

The church council on Thursday asked the United States to send a peacekeeping force to Liberia. But the US Charge D'Affaires, Dennis Fort, said the United States was not prepared to send a peacekeeping force.

Four US Navy ships, carrying 2,100 marines are anchored off Liberia's Atlantic Ocean coast in case an emergency evacuation of US citizens is needed. Many Liberians believed the marines would intervene in the civil war.

Nearly 150,000 refugees have fled Liberia, and thousands of foreign nationals have been evacuated. The US embassy said a chartered air flight would evacuate more citizens tomorrow.

The war, which began as a rebel insurgency, has escalated into tribal war. Human rights organisations accuse soldiers of killing people from the Gio and Mano ethnic groups, who have backed the rebels.

Roh, Kim fail to reach agreement

Differences remain over key political issues

SEOUL, June 16, (UPI): President Roh Tae-Woo and opposition leader Kim Dae Jung held a meeting today but failed to reach any agreement on pending political issues.

The get-together was at the Blue House, the presidential mansion. Roh invited Kim to brief the opposition politician on his talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in San Francisco early this month and to discuss major domestic issues.

Following the three-hour meeting, presidential spokesman Lee Soo-Jung said the two leaders shared the view that the nation should cope

with the changing international situation around Korea on a non-partisan basis.

However, they differed on key political issues such as a possible constitutional revision to replace the current presidential form of government with a parliamentary cabinet system, according to Lee.

At the meeting, Kim head of the Party for Peace and Democracy, suspected that the proposed constitutional change is an attempt to prolong Roh's rule shifting to a parliamentary cabinet form of government, and demanded Roh's clear stand on the issue.

"As we experienced in the past presidential race (in December 1987) direct election caused a variety of side-effects which, if repeated, could cause a national crisis and endanger even national security," the spokesman quoted Roh as saying.

"There are other pressing national tasks and this is no time to propose constitutional amendment (for a parliamentary cabinet system). I will follow popular wishes on the issue. Personally I think some day we must jointly reevaluate the present system."

Roh told Kim that he had no intention to stay on in power beyond his constitutionally guaranteed term which ends on Feb 24, 1993, the spokesman said.

Kim, protesting the three-party merger earlier this year which gave birth to a gigantic ruling party under the leadership of Roh, demanded that the national assembly be dissolved and new elections called to seek a popular verdict on the political realignment.

Ms Makeba is a staunch supporter of the ANC, a black nationalist movement banned until February. Her songs were banned in South Africa in 1962.

She had left South Africa in 1959 at the age of 27 to make a musical movie and appear on television in the United States, but received a one-year contract to sing in New York club.

France in a dilemma

Political turmoil in ex-colonies

PARIS, June 16, (AP): France, long proud of its unmatched commitment to black Africa, now is groping for the proper response to a wave of protests against undemocratic regimes that it has helped sustain.

Although democratisation in Eastern Europe was welcomed unreservedly by the West, Africa poses a policy dilemma without clear solutions.

France, with its own revolutionary heritage, will not repudiate the intensifying cries for change in Gabon, the Ivory Coast, Cameroon and other former colonies. Yet there are worries in Paris that the abrupt ouster of incumbent regimes even if corrupt or repressive — might unleash ethnic strife and economic chaos without ensuring progress toward democracy.

French officials insist they will not walk away from the problem, and there is much talk about discreetly nudging current leaders toward reform. Several presidents, for the first time, are at least paying lip service to the concept of multi-party elections.

But to some critics, France's discretion is merely camouflage for a lack of strategies.

"Across the continent, tumultuous situations require new ideas," said the independent Paris-based magazine Jeune Afrique. "France is wooed by the governments and the opposition. But for the first time, its African policy seems to have broken down."

"If France perhaps knows what it wants, it doesn't know how to achieve it," said the magazine, one of several in Paris to devote recent cover stories to Francophone Africa's turmoil.

"We must say that we will no longer blindly support complaint dictatorships," said Jacques Barrot, an opposition leader in the centrist United Democratic Front. "If we don't quickly state this policy, we soon will have no alternatives except

repeated military interventions or abandoning Africa to chaos and misery."

Recent riots in Gabon gave France a glimpse of what might lie ahead. Anti-government protesters briefly abducted a French diplomat, and French soldiers who soon arrived were widely viewed as propping up President Omar Bongo despite official insistence that their only task was to protect European expatriates.

Both Bongo and the Ivory Coast's octogenarian President, Felix Houphouet-Boigny, have treaties providing for French troops to support their governments during internal strife as well as against foreign incursions.

But French officials say there is little likelihood now of direct military intervention, either on behalf of an African leader or against one — such as 1979's "Operation Barracuda," when French troops helped topple the Central African Republic's self-proclaimed emperor, Jean-Bedel Bokassa.

"The post-colonial period is over," said Foreign Minister Roland Dumas. "It's up to Africans to resolve their problems."

Other former colonial powers — Britain, Portugal and Belgium — have invested less of their international prestige in the continent, and have not emulated France's familiar relationships with African leaders.

Ironically, the United States — never an African coloniser — faces dilemmas similar to the French in Liberia and Zaire, recipients of extensive US aid. American diplomats have urged authoritarian Presidents Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and Samuel K. Doe of Liberia to allow political pluralism, but neither Zaire's fragmented opposition nor Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor has obtained formal backing in Washington.



Roh (right) receives Kim at the presidential mansion of Blue House on June 16. The two met for the first time since the merger of the ruling party and two opposition parties. (Reuters wirephoto)

Many changes have come but apartheid is still alive says SA singer Makeba

JOHANNESBURG, June 16, (AP): South African singer Miriam Makeba said many changes have come to her homeland in her 31 years of exile, but that it pains her to see "apartheid is still alive."

"I can come home, but I cannot vote," the 58-year-old star told reporters after her return for a weeklong visit to be with her family and to pray at her mother's gravesite.

She noted that laws remain intact restricting black land ownership and enforc-

ing segregated education and housing.

"My impressions are that there are some cosmetic changes," she said.

She voiced some disagreement with the African National Congress and others about whether she would be breaking a boycott on entertainers performing in South Africa if she sang in public at home.

"I believe as a South African the cultural boycott does not apply to me," she said. "It depends on the comrades of the (ANC) cultural desk. There is some kind of con-

fusion."

Ms. Makeba sang one song extemporaneously and without accompaniment when he was called to the stage at a Johannesburg nightclub earlier this week.

She said she does not know if she will eventually reside in South Africa, but that she wants to return and perform, bringing her children and grandchildren with her.

look forward to the most, to come back and sing before the South African people," she said.

Ms Makeba is a staunch supporter of the ANC, a black nationalist movement banned until February. Her songs were banned in South Africa in 1962.

She had left South Africa in 1959 at the age of 27 to make a musical movie and appear on television in the United States, but received a one-year contract to sing in New York club.

Handwritten signature: J. M. M. M.

Soviet offer on N-arms rejected

WASHINGTON, June 16. (Agencies): President George Bush has rejected the latest Soviet attempt to start negotiations on removing all short-range nuclear weapons from Europe, insisting talks be completed first on cutting conventional forces, the White House said yesterday.

Moscow renewed a proposal on June 8 that talks begin in September or October on short range nuclear forces (SNF) in Europe — a position the United States has refused to accept in the past, despite pressure from some Nato allies.

"The President has stated that SNF negotiations should begin after conclusion of an agreement on conventional forces in Europe (CFE), Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said.

"Nato strategy is based on maintaining an adequate mix of nuclear and conventional weapons," said Fitzwater, who noted that the leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation will meet in London for talks on July 5-6.

The White House welcomed a Soviet announcement earlier this month that it would withdraw some short-range weapons from Eastern Europe.

"The Soviets have a preponderance of forces in this category in Europe and any unilateral reduction can help enhance predictability and stability," Fitzwater said.

The dramatic changes in Eastern Europe and the rapid pace of efforts to unify East and West Germany have reshaped the political landscape both for Washington and Moscow.

One year ago, Bush was faced with a raging debate within Nato over starting talks on short range nuclear weapons — with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl leading the fight for immediate negotiations.

Now, the question has become moot as most of the countries within striking distance of the Nato nuclear weapons have become unlikely targets — like Poland and Hungary.

A US-Soviet agreement in 1987 led to the scrapping of medium-range weapons.

Bush earlier this year announced his decision to scrap plans to modernise the ageing short-range Lance missiles and nuclear artillery shells.

Those weapons, expected to be obsolete by the mid-1990s, are likely to be replaced by a new generation of US-designed short-range missiles.

The Soviet Union has proposed that the Nato nations enter into negotiations this fall on the elimination of all tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, alliance officials said.

But Nato diplomats insisted that such bargaining should not begin until an accord is reached in Vienna on slashing troops, tanks and other conventional arms in Europe.

Florent Swislen, spokesman for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, said in a statement, "the Soviet Union proposed to the United States to start negotiations on the elimination of SNF in the autumn of this year."

"This matter will be discussed by the heads of state and government during their summit meeting in London next month," he said.

Polish mass grave found

MOSCOW, June 16. (Reuters): The remains of 6,500 Polish soldiers and Soviet citizens killed by Stalin's security police have been found in a mass grave near the city of Kharkov, Ukrainian state security said on Saturday.

A spokesman for the KGB in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev told Reuters by telephone that the bodies were discovered in a corpse just outside the eastern Ukrainian city.

"Investigation of the grave is continuing. It's not clear how many of the corpses are Soviet, but it has been established that it contained Polish military," the spokesman said.

The newspaper Moscow News reported earlier this week that human remains and pieces of Polish uniforms, medals and coins had been found in the area by young children playing. Until recently it had been sealed off as a country retreat for KGB officers.

The newspaper gave no clear figures for the numbers in the mass grave but compared it to the Katyn forest massacre in the neighbouring Republic of Byelorussia where 4,000 Polish officers were shot and buried in 1940.

They were among 15,000 Polish officers who were captured by the KGB's predecessor, the NKVD, after Soviet troops moved into eastern Poland.

In one of the illustrations of how desperate Soviets are for food and consumer goods, Sveta and Oleg have applied to marry just to be able to get the right to shop in a special store for brides and grooms.

When they applied, Oleg's thoughts were on an imported man's suit, cufflinks, gold or silver wedding rings and imported shoes; Sveta's on her own wedding ring, imported shoes, imported pantyhose and mascara.

For both, it was a chance to shop in Gemini, part of a nation-wide chain of stores that is an oasis in a desert of deficits.

Here is how the scam works: A single or

Spies are coming out of hiding throughout Germany

BONN, June 16. (AP): Communist spies are coming out of hiding throughout Germany, and Western officials are trying to lure others from possible Soviet recruitment with suggestions of amnesty.

For 40 years, East German agents using West Germany as their western base, stole vital defence and technological secrets, wrecked one West German government and turned the German states into the espionage battleground of the cold war.

With the collapse of the East German

communist government and the rapidly approaching merger of the two Germanys, officials say the former adversaries are co-operating. In addition, many former spooks are talking, some in hopes of bettering their fate in a unified Germany.

"As you can imagine, the information flows quite freely because we have former Stasi officials who come to us and speak very frankly and freely," said Lutz Stavenhagen, a security expert in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government.

Stasi in German is short for the old

East German Ministry for State Security, which included domestic and foreign intelligence agents.

West German espionage experts estimate there are up to 6,000 spies in West Germany, including East German agents and West German defectors, but they won't say how many are known to authorities.

The treaty that outlines the conditions for the economic and social unification of the two German states does not address the espionage issue.

What to do with the spies has become

"a very, very tricky matter," said one West German government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

An amnesty has been suggested. "They must think about it, because (otherwise) there would be too many people at risk to be punished on both sides of the former German border," said Hans-Gert Lange, spokesman for the Federal Force for the Protection of the Constitution.

"We know that obviously the Soviet secret service, the KGB, is trying to get hold of the most efficient of these

agents," Stavenhagen said. He said officials have tried to counter that by urging them to turn themselves in to avoid persecution.

A similar situation developed after World War II, as both the Soviets and Western allies scrambled to recruit the top agents who had worked in Hitler's secret service.

Stavenhagen said the most likely outcome for agents in West Germany would be an "amnesty for the normal spy — looking into boxes and papers and that sort of thing," but the "basic

condition is that they turn themselves over."

Top spies, ones the West Germans say "have blood on their hands," would not qualify for an amnesty, he said.

A different amnesty — perhaps one without conditions — would probably apply to the spies in East Germany who worked for the branch of Stasi that spied on the West. One West German government espionage expert, who spoke on condition of anonymity, estimated there were about 12,000 such spies.



Demolishing the Wall

East Germany has set a deadline of December for total demolition of the Berlin Wall that sealed citizens off from the West for 28 years until the country's Stalinist dictatorship fell in late 1989.

East German Prime Minister, Lothar de Maiziere (right) is shaking hands with Berlin citizens through a big hole in the Berlin Wall near Checkpoint Charlie where he visited East and West German building contractors dismantling the wall.

(Reuters wirephoto)

Panel approves treaty

Germany's economic unification

BONN, June 16. (AP): West Germany's "unification committee," comprised of representatives of all parties in Parliament, agreed yesterday on the state treaty that paves the way for economic unity on July 2.

Parliamentary ratification of the agreement was expected late next week.

West German Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann said the Staatsvertrag, or state treaty, contained some economic risks over East Germany but that there was no reason for "exaggerated pessimism."

"Naturally, after 40 years of planned economy, there will be painful cuts. Of course, some companies will have to close down," Haussmann said.

Maiziere hopes for French support

EAST BERLIN, June 16. (Reuters): East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere can expect support from France for changes in Nato's military strategy when he visits Paris on Monday, the official East German news agency ADN said today.

The proposed membership of a united Germany in the Atlantic alliance and the security guarantees sought by Germany's neighbours would be the main themes of his talks with President Francois Mitterrand, it said.

East Germany will also ask for more French help in rebuilding an economy crippled by 40 years of communist central planning.

"More than in Washington or London, the prime minister can expect understanding for his government's policy of making Nato membership for a united Germany dependent on basic changes in the military strategy of this alliance," ADN said.

De Maiziere was in Washington for talks with President George Bush on Wednesday. He is also due to visit Britain.

"President Mitterrand and Prime Minister (Michel) Rocard will not hesitate to point out that France never agreed to the strategy of forward defence and flexible response," ADN said.



Belgrade rally

Two young demonstrators carrying the Serbian flag without star during the rally against communists in Belgrade. About 30,000 people demand democracy and free elections. (Reuters wirephoto)

Independence act may be suspended

Lithuanian bid to facilitate talks with Moscow

MOSCOW, June 16. (Agencies): The Lithuanian government proposed today that the Baltic republic's declaration of independence be suspended to facilitate talks with Moscow on its future.

"The government suggests to the supreme council of the republic of Lithuania (parliament) that it debate the possibility of declaring a temporary moratorium on the (independence) act for the period of negotiations with the Soviet Union," a statement from the parliament's information bureau said.

Prunskiene emerged from those talks saying Moscow had agreed to lift economic sanctions partially by resuming some gas supplies to her republic.

She indicated that Lithuania was prepared to soften its previous stance by temporarily freezing its March 11 independence act for the duration of talks with Moscow.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev imposed harsh economic sanctions on Lithuania, cutting off oil supplies and sharply reducing vital gas deliveries, in response to legislation passed after its independence declaration.

The sanctions have closed most Lithuanian factories, putting up to 40,000 people out of work and hitting agriculture. They have also shut down key installations including an oil refinery important to the Soviet Union.

Lithuania blazed a trail for independence in the Baltics by its March 11 act. Its sister Baltic republics, Latvia and Estonia, later decided to pursue a similar course of action — though step-by-step.

The three republics are seeking to recover independence lost in 1940 when they were incorporated into the Soviet Union after a secret deal between Stalin and Hitler.

The next step appeared to be a formal decision on the government recommendation by the Lithuanian parliament, the body which declared independence.

The Vilnius government made it clear it expected Moscow to lift its economic blockade forthwith.

Police and Interior Ministry troops ringed a Ukrainian prison yesterday as authorities negotiated with mutineers to end a riot in which at least two inmates were killed.

An Interior Ministry official said the rebels, who drew police fire when they rampaged through Dnepropetrovsk prison on Thursday, were seeking improved jail conditions.

A dozen activists from the Polish Socialist Party picketed the Soviet embassy yesterday demanding freedom for the three Baltic states.

President Mikhail Gorbachev stayed home sick yesterday with "a little cold," but remained in touch by telephone, a top Soviet official said.

France jails spy scientist

PARIS, June 16. (AP): A German researcher hired 30 years ago by a French government scientific agency was sentenced yesterday to 12 years in prison for providing documents to East Germany's secret service.

Rolf Dobberin, 55, was convicted of passing on information about nuclear research and other topics to East Germany over a 20-year period ending in 1979.

At the start of his trial Wednesday, he defended his actions by saying East German intelligence officials had coerced him into providing information.



Communism an unreachable ideal

Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov (shown above) said on Friday communism was a remote ideal impossible to reach in the foreseeable future.

The unorthodox opinion by a member of the Communist Party's ruling politburo came during a question-and-answer session at a conference of the Moscow Party organisation, a report carried by the unofficial news agency Interfax said.

"Asked to define his attitude to communism, the prime minister said it is a goal so remote that it is beyond the foreseeable future," Interfax said.

Ryzhkov's comment reflected a recent retreat by many Soviet Communists from the possibility of achieving the Marxist ideal of a society where no one is exploited and each person receives goods according to his needs. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Appel' celebration

Evening, June 18, 1940

De Gaulle talk

LONDON, June 16. (AP): Few men could have felt as utterly alone as Charles de Gaulle on the evening of June 18, 1940.

As the tall, uniformed French general strode into the London studios of the BBC to make his first broadcast to France, his country was collapsing under the German blitzkrieg. Its government was suing for peace. A shellshocked populace was resigned to defeat.

De Gaulle's stand seemed a pathetic exercise. At 49, virtually unknown outside military circles, he lacked troops, guns, money, and friends. The collaborationist French government would shortly sentence the rebel to death. De Gaulle wrote later that he felt like the survivor of a shipwreck, "a man on the shore of an ocean, proposing to swim across."

Fifty years later, De Gaulle's broadcast is a hallowed memory for France, a symbol of defiance against all odds.

But in 1940, there was no rush to the banner of this self-styled Joan of Arc in London.

De Gaulle had led his tanks gallantly against the German onslaught, and remained in France until June 17, leaving for England only when defeat became inevitable.

The British had hoped leading politicians would come to carry on the fight. Winston Churchill was disappointed that no one more senior than De Gaulle showed up.

But the British Prime Minister immediately recognised the general as a comrade. De Gaulle correctly predicted the Americans and Soviets would join the war and that Hitler would go down in five years. That kind of fighting talk appealed to Churchill. "You are alone. Well, I shall recognise you alone," he told De Gaulle on June 27.

The relationship between the two Titans soon faltered. De Gaulle, an instinctive anglophobe, showed his hosts little gratitude.

He could be breathtakingly arrogant. Petty setbacks sent him into towering rages. Leonard Miall, a BBC editor, remembers De Gaulle's fury because his June 18 broadcast was not recorded for posterity.

The vast majority saw him as a brass rebel who fled his native soil hours after France capitulated — to join forces with an old enemy, England.

The grandfatherly, taciturn Petain, on the other hand, known as "The Hero of Verdun," urged an end to the conflict which he believed France could never win.

Petaim's popularity began to fade only after the Vichy-led police zealously rounded up Jews for deportation to concentration camps — 123,000 died — and began sending French workers to Germany.

Fifty years later, the French are celebrating De Gaulle unreservedly. Politicians try to capitalise on his legacy, each vying to appear as his heir, but there are virtually no reminders of the collaborationist regime or tolerance of Nazism that De Gaulle vigorously condemned.

Sound and light extravaganzas on the Seine and the Hotel de Ville will re-enact the dramatic movements of the war including the Nazi invasion, the June 18 appeal, D-Day, the liberation.

Paris has been plastered with 6,000 posters recalling the highlights of De Gaulle's career. Art exhibitions, documentaries and

television specials — even a computer game — recapture the grandeur and charisma of "Le General."

A giant replica of the wireless — the kind that ordinary citizens would later risk their lives listening to — will be erected at the Place de la Concorde and will broadcast De Gaulle's wartime speeches from dawn to dusk on June 18.

Retired General Andre Delpech, a resistance fighter who was tortured and sent to Dachau in 1944, was 15 at the time of the June 18 appeal.

Marriage Soviet style: loving to shop at special stores

MOSCOW, June 16. (AP): Sveta and Oleg are in love and have signed up to marry. But the day that the wedding bells are to ring, they won't be around to hear them, they'll be too busy shopping.

In one of the illustrations of how desperate Soviets are for food and consumer goods, Sveta and Oleg have applied to marry just to be able to get the right to shop in a special store for brides and grooms.

When they applied, Oleg's thoughts were on an imported man's suit, cufflinks, gold or silver wedding rings and imported shoes; Sveta's on her own wedding ring, imported shoes, imported pantyhose and mascara.

For both, it was a chance to shop in Gemini, part of a nation-wide chain of stores that is an oasis in a desert of deficits.

Here is how the scam works: A single or

divorced Soviet finds a partner and applies to marry at a government registration office. They pay a 15-ruble (\$24) fee. The couple is assigned a date for an official ceremony and is given a prized booklet of coupons entitling them to shop at a Gemini store, as well as food shops meant to supply wedding parties.

The couple can shop at the stores until the wedding day, when the coupons expire. They don't show up for the official wedding, and their marriage application is automatically voided.

They can start all over again: If their faces become too familiar at the registration office, they can just go to another.

That's why Sveta and Oleg have no intention of getting married, even though they are in love and are living together.

The scheme is so lucrative that Sveta has applied to marry three times since her divorce in

November — once with Oleg and twice with his friends.

Thousands are participating in the scam. One-third of all Soviets applying to marry do so only so they can shop in the special stores, state television's breakfast show "120 Minutes" reported in April. And that does not include other matches made so one partner can obtain a residence permit in a city where the other lives.

Looking for loopholes even in such a sacred institution as marriage has become a survival technique in a system that has failed to offer Soviets the food and consumer goods they want.

"It's the situation in this state which leads people to such things, where you can't spend money on anything except low-quality food," said Viktor, a 31-year-old Moscowite who applied to marry a friend of his girlfriend in May so they could obtain access to the special store.

"There's such a terrible deficit. You can't buy anything in the (regular) stores," said Sveta, a 28-year-old eye doctor. She declined to give her surname, fearing its publication would help authorities track her down.

The fear was largely unfounded, because what she and the thousands of other Soviets are doing is not illegal.

"It's a moral, not a legal issue," Valentina Borzhenskova, director of Moscow's wedding palace No. 1, where weddings are performed, said in an interview. "It's everyone's right if all formalities are followed."

But there is an even better shop nearby for couples celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries. Sveta would love to get into that one, but admits with a laugh, "Unfortunately, grandmothers and grandfathers won't run back and forth to the registration offices."

World News Roundup

Europe

Human rights meeting: The 35 nations attending an East-West human rights conference were far from agreement Friday on ground rules to protect ethnic minorities in Europe.

"The views are far apart," said Martin Vukovich, who heads the Austrian delegation to the month-long meeting in Copenhagen.

Austria and four other Central European nations — Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Italy — are trying to draft a list of principles on national minority rights to be adopted by a consensus later this month. (AP)

Macedonians block border: Macedonian demonstrators blocked the Yugoslav-Greek border with trucks and trailers on Saturday to protest against alleged visa discrimination and mistreatment of co-nationals in Greece.

Queues of traffic kilometres (miles) long built up on both sides of the border crossing at Gjevelija in Yugoslavia and Evzoni in Greece. The two other border crossings at Bitola and lake Dojran were also closed, witnesses said. (Reuters)

Greek quake, 1 hurt: A sharp earthquake hit western Greece on Saturday, injuring one person, damaging buildings and disrupting electricity and telephone services.

A 78-year-old woman was slightly injured in the village of Riza when her house collapsed in the quake at 5:16 am (0216 GMT), said a police spokesman in nearby Preveza. (AP)

Told to withdraw 'Nazi' cartoon: French broadcasting authorities ordered the country's biggest private television channel on Friday to withdraw a Japanese-made children's cartoon show in which the hero's right-hand man sports a Nazi swastika.

The broadcasting council said the weekly series "Muscleman" on the TF1 channel contained a character who wore a swastika on his shirt. (Reuters)

12 hurt in false TWA evacuation: A dozen people were hurt in the evacuation of a New York-bound TWA jet at Heathrow airport Friday after a cockpit light warning of a fire accidentally went on, authorities said.

A problem with an air conditioning unit somehow caused the warning light to turn on while the Lockheed tri-star was still on the tarmac, said TWA spokesman Sam Nakamura. He did not elaborate. (AP)

King Hassan due in France: King Hassan of Morocco will leave for France on Monday to attend a Franco-African summit while his elder son starts a visit to Britain, diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

The summit is due to open on Tuesday in the seaside resort of La Baule. The king hosted the last one in Casablanca in December 1988. (Reuters)

Tunisia seizes weekly: Tunisian authorities have seized the latest issue of the Islamic fundamentalist newspaper Al Fajr, a spokesman for the weekly said on Saturday.

He said he did not know the reason for the seizure, the first since the paper was launched on April 23. (Reuters)

Egypt, China generals meet: Visiting Egyptian Air Defence Commander Lt General Mostafa Ahmed Shazly and the delegation accompanying him met in Beijing Saturday with chief of staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army General Li Baoshan. The New China News Agency (Xinhua) reported.

The agency said the two generals held friendly conversation, but gave no further details of the talks. (Kuna)

PLO envoy meets French aide: A top envoy of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) met a senior French government official to discuss Israel's new right-wing government and the situation in the occupied territories, PLO sources said on Saturday.

The Elysee presidential palace confirmed that Hakan Balouti, the organization's ambassador in Tunis, met President Francois Mitterrand's diplomatic adviser, Loic Hennekinne, on Friday afternoon, but gave no details on their talks. (Reuters)

US donates grain: The United States has given Tunisia \$10 million worth of grain, the official news agency TAP said on Saturday.

It said 90,000 tonnes of sorghum and maize would be delivered, starting next month. (Reuters)

Libyans ransack envoy homes: Libyan agents ransacked the homes of Chad's diplomats in Tripoli in attacks this week, shattering windows and smashing cars, Chad said on Friday.

A Foreign Ministry statement broadcast on state radio said Chad was lodging a strong formal complaint against its northern neighbour after the alleged night attacks on June 10 and 11. (Reuters)

ACC officials to meet: Health ministers of Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and Yemen, members of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), meet in Amman on June 18-20 to discuss health and pharmaceutical issues.

ACC Secretary-General, Helmi Nammar, said in a statement that the meeting is convened in line with the health co-operation agreement among the council's states, which was concluded in the ACC Amman summit last February. (Kuna)

ACC news directors meet: The second conference for directors of news agencies of the four member states of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) began in Amman Saturday.

The directors of news agencies of Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and Yemen as well as heads of technical departments of these agencies are going to evaluate the ACC news pool that the Jordanian News Agency (Petra) began to transmit by the onset of this year. (Kuna)

Bulgarian reformist prime minister fights for seat in second round election

Under the first-past-the-post system, "I am doing my best to win. I would prefer to win my own seat in my native city," he told Reuters after making the first of two pre-election trips this week to the constituency in northern Bulgaria.

Defence Minister Dobri Dzhourouf faces a tough challenge from UDF candidate Yordan Vassilev, editor of the UDF newspaper Demokrasiya, in the town of Troyan in central Bulgaria.

Foreign diplomats predicted the vote would split 50-50 between the two main parties, giving the BSP the 29 seats it needs for a parliamentary majority.



Day of Mourning and Hope

A Vinus resident weeps during ceremonies marking the Day of Mourning and Hope June 14. This day commemorates those who suffered under the Stalin regime where 49 years ago the first trains with arrested Lithuanians were deported to the east. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mitterrand charges 'EEC uses English at French expense'

PARIS, June 16, (AP) — President Francois Mitterrand, in a letter released yesterday, said the European Economic Community has improperly allowed English to become its dominant administrative language at the expense of French.

"France was ready to help EEC bureaucrats 'acquire the linguistic competence needed to perform their mission,'" Mitterrand wrote in a letter to Jacques Delors, the Frenchman who is president of the European Commission.

Several conservative members of Britain's Parliament reacted to Mitterrand's letter with derision.

"The man's dotty," Sir Nicholas Fairbairn said. "French is the language of privacy and English is the language of communication."

"It might not be a bad idea if President Mitterrand took some English lessons, preferably from Mrs Thatcher," said another MP, Neil Hamilton.

Mitterrand said the use of French as an official EEC language was a top priority of his government.

"Today, a tendency exists in certain sectors of the commission to convene meetings of experts who are asked to work only in English," he wrote.

Car navigation system: A new automobile navigation system is now available as an option on some cars in Japan, a Japanese electric maker announced Saturday.

The system features an in-vehicle display to show the current location, direction on travel and distance to the destination, it reported.

It also provides a variety of road guide information, making it easier to drive comfortably in unfamiliar areas.

The current location is detected as distance sensors measure the rotation of the wheels and directional sensors detect the geographic position to obtain the current location and direction of the vehicle, a spokesman explained. (Kuna)

US to probe skeletons: US military experts will travel to Malaysia soon to find out if skeletons killed in Vietnam are indeed those of humans, a Defence Department spokesman said on Friday.

"The team will determine from a preliminary investigation if the remains are those of humans," Lieutenant Commander Edward Lindquist told Reuters.

"If they are, we will bring them back to our laboratories in Honolulu for further analysis to determine if they are American," he said. (Reuters)

Power line thefts, 6 get death: Six people have been sentenced to death and 70 others to jail terms in central China for stealing power lines and causing repeated power outages, an official report said Friday.

In the past four months, courts in Shanxi province have handled 31 such cases involving 76 alleged criminals, the legal daily reported.

Power lines are stolen to be sold on the black market. (AP)

Call to free Chinese seamen: China is calling on South Africa to release 38 Chinese seamen detained for nearly two weeks in a legal dispute between a Chinese firm and an Australian company over a ship sinking, the official press reported Saturday.

The English-language China Daily quoted officials of the China Ocean Shipping Co., a government concern, as saying the dispute grew out of the sinking of the Chinese freighter Tao Yuan Hai during a storm in the South Indian Ocean on May 27. (UPI)

China executes 10: China has executed 10 people and police in Tibet have arrested three gun smugglers in a new crackdown on crime, said official newspapers reaching Beijing on Saturday.

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The Heman daily said two of those executed had gang-raped a 16-year-old girl, strangled her, dismembered her corpse and hidden the pieces.

The June 13 edition did not give the crimes of the eight others executed in the central city of Zhengzhou. (Reuters)

KPNLF demands release: The US-backed Cambodian resistance Saturday appealed to the Phnom Penh government to release all political prisoners to help facilitate national reconciliation.

"The KPNLF appeals to the Phnom Penh administration set up by the Vietnamese invading forces in 1978, to show its good faith and release all the political prisoners," said a press release issued by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front in Bangkok. (UPI)

S. Korea, Congo ties: South Korea re-established full diplomatic ties with Congo in 25 years effective Saturday, the Foreign Ministry announced.

A joint declaration for ambassadorial relations was signed on Thursday in Brazzaville, the capital of Congo, between officials of the two countries, the ministry said.

South Korea and Congo initially set up formal relations in 1961 which were cut off by South Korea in 1965 in protest against the establishment of diplomatic relations between Congo and North Korea in the previous year. (UPI)

Africa

Ex-official's family attacked: A former Kenyan cabinet minister who has incensed government leaders by advocating a multi-party system said Thursday that thugs wielding guns and machetes attacked his home and seriously injured his wife.

"I do not want to make any insinuations, but let me say it is very hard for me and my family not to associate any stand in public affairs with this attack," Kenneth Matiba told reporters.

The former minister said the attack occurred about midnight Wednesday at his 40-acre (16-hectare) farm and residence 15 miles (25 kilometres) north of Nairobi. He was not home at the time.

He said a group of about 15 men "calling each other corporal and captain" broke through heavy iron grills over the windows and into his bedroom, where his daughter and maid had sought refuge with his wife. (AP)

Dos Santos reshuffles govt: President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos on Friday switched two cabinet posts and created a new Information Ministry apparently to strengthen his position in the Marxist government.

Dos Santos nominated new finance and planning ministers and appointed Boaventura de Carvalho Minister of Information, a post abolished three years ago.

The president is expected to make more ministerial changes soon. Angolan officials said the switches in top economic posts were designed to advance reforms aimed at reducing state intervention in the economy. (AP)

African states adopt FAO plans: Forty-three countries unanimously adopted plans on Friday to combat the hunger of millions of Africans and destruction of African land.

The countries, attending a regional conference of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), heard that 142 million Africans suffered from chronic under-nourishment out of a total population of 600 million increasing at such a rate it will double in 20 years. (Reuters)

France, Madagascar end disputes: France and Madagascar agreed on Friday to end two long-standing disputes, a goodwill gesture marking the visit of French President Francois Mitterrand to the Indian Ocean island.

Mitterrand told President Didier Ratsiraka he accepted Madagascar's claim to a string of small islands in the Mozambique Channel which have been French for nearly a century. (Reuters)

Rebels free SA family: A South African family captured six weeks ago in Mozambique by right-wing guerrillas was freed Friday and turned over to the South African defence forces during a sea rescue operation, the Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.

David Muller, his wife Sandy and their two children, aged 8 and 5, were captured after their yacht ran aground near Ponta Sebastiao off Mozambique's Inhambane province on April 28. (UPI)

Building collapses, 23 dead: A private school building collapsed Friday in the eastern city of Port Harcourt, killing at least 23 students and injuring 60, witnesses and hospital workers said.

More than 300 policemen were digging through the rubble in search of 15 other students feared trapped, a police spokesman said. (AP)

Bongo arrives in Morocco: Gabonese President Omar Bongo arrived at Rabat airport on Friday for a two-day visit on his way to France to attend a Franco-African summit.

Diplomats said King Hassan of Morocco was also expected to attend the summit to be held in the French seaside resort of La Naule next Tuesday.

Bongo made no statement on arrival at the airport. (Reuters)

Latin America

Dogs killed during invasion: The commander of Panama's police dog training programme charged this week that American soldiers unnecessarily killed up to 25 dogs during the US invasion of Panama in an attack on a police kennel.

The unit involved in the assault was led by Captain Linda Bray, 29, who reluctantly became a media star as America's first woman soldier to direct a combat operation.

Interviews and a tour of the bullet-riddled and now abandoned kennel and adjacent trainers' quarters this week did not pinpoint any US soldier's personal involvement in the incident on the December 20 invasion night. (Reuters)

Election results

Zheho Zhelev, leader of the UDF, (Union of the Democratic Forces) adjusts his earphone during a news conference after the results of the first free elections in Bulgaria in 40 years were announced June 14. The UDF was placed second behind the Socialist Party. (Reuters wirephoto)

The main task of the national assembly will be to draft a constitution to create a post-communist, multi-party system.

Diplomats attributed the BSP's success in the first round vote to experience and a more charismatic leadership.

But they also said a legacy of fear after 35 years of totalitarian rule under Zhivkov survived in rural areas where anti-reformist BSP members still controlled local councils and municipalities.

The UDF, a coalition of 16 groups, captured the lion's share of the vote in major towns and cities.

Liberals' Freedom Movement declared illegal

Radicals call for crackdown

NICOSIA, June 16, (AP) — Tehran's radical Jomhuri Islami daily called today for a crackdown on "fifth column" groups following the arrest of senior officials of Iran's token opposition party.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted the daily as saying in an editorial that "no mercy" should be shown to opposition figures "who aid the enemies of the Islamic revolution."

The publication of the editorial raised speculation that the government of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, was under growing pressure from radical rivals to move against liberals seeking greater social and political freedoms.

The editorial was published two days after Iranian authorities arrested eight leading

members of the Freedom Movement of Iran, a small party led by the Islamic Republic's first prime minister, Mehdi Bazargan.

In the past, the kind of barrage of vituperative denunciation like that now aimed at Bazargan's movement has often been the prelude to treason trials.

The crackdown against the Freedom Movement appeared to signal the final crushing of the faction that has functioned as Iran's only legal political opposition party over the last decade despite constant harassment by Islamic radicals.

The Tehran authorities declared the party illegal yesterday.

Bazargan, 83, was not reported to be among the Freedom Movement activists arrested in Tehran earlier this week and he was believed to be in hiding.

Jomhuri Islami said the arrests came after "constant, organized and clandestine contacts by these people with foreign circles for the last several years."

It claimed that during the 1980-88 war with Iraq, "the group functioned as a fifth column serving the objectives of the enemies of the Islamic revolution and the Iranian nation."

The daily said the dossier on those arrested "is full of documents proving their treason against the nation, turning their backs on the aspirations of the revolution and their attempt to bring back the diabolic rule" of the monarchy.

During the war, Bazargan repeatedly called on the Tehran hierarchy to make peace with Iraq, particularly after the Iranians pushed Iraq's back across the border in 1982.

Peace Corps to go to Poland

WASHINGTON, June 16, (Reuters) — President George Bush said yesterday that the first group of Peace Corps volunteers leaving for Eastern Europe this weekend were a sign of America's commitment to democracy in that region.

"Peace Corps programmes in Poland and Hungary, and then soon in Czechoslovakia, are another tangible element of America's sustained commitment to Central and Eastern Europe's democratic transformation toward a Europe whole and free," Bush said.

The Peace Corps is sending 121 volunteers to Poland and Hungary over the next three days, the first volunteers the agency has ever posted in Eastern Europe.

"It shows that our mission, our desire for peace knows no political or geographic boundaries," Bush told the volunteers at a White House ceremony.

The Peace Corps has been sending volunteers to Third World nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean since its founding by President John Kennedy in 1961.

A symbol of the idealism of America's youth during the 1960s, the corps initially sent most young college graduates to remote areas to work on grassroots development projects.

Increasingly, however, it is sending more highly trained, older volunteers to work in cities as English teachers and health care workers.

The volunteers leaving this weekend will receive 11 weeks of language training in-country before being assigned to local communities to teach English.

Bush recalled a 1985 visit to Africa with his wife, Barbara, where he saw Peace Corps volunteers at work.

"Tomorrow you will set sail for a different region and you will encounter a different kind of hunger, a different kind of craving from that which Bar and I saw in Africa," Bush said.

"But the hunger is powerful, and the need is real for the nourishment of free ideas and the sustenance of free enterprise," the President said.

Imitation

A group of Palestinian children show off their imitation weapons in the Jabalia refugee camp. (Reuters wirephoto)

UNDP calls for aid

Efforts in W. Bank hailed

GENEVA, June 15, (Kuna): The 37th session of the governing council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) today commended the organization's efforts during the last 10 years towards assistance to the Palestinian people and urged the international community to provide more resources.

Commenting on his report to the council, the director of the UNDP programme of assistance to the Palestinian people, Timothy Rothermel said the number of international organizations working with the UNDP in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had increased during 1989.

The type of activities being carried out, he pointed out, were increasingly directed towards industrial and agricultural projects to increase productivity and income.

As examples, he cited the case of the business development centre which was now fully functioning and providing advisory services and credit facilities for Palestinian entrepreneurs. Others include a grape processing facility in the West Bank, and the long awaited Gaza citrus processing plant which, after some unanticipated delays involving funding, now seemed to be on track.

Rothermel expressed his gratitude, as did many Arab and other delegations subsequently, to those governments and UN organizations which had supplemented the \$25.5 million in special programme resources allocated for the purpose by the governing council since 1980.

They include the Arab Gulf fund for UN development organizations, the governments of Canada, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Tunisia, and the United States of America, as well as the WHO, ILO and UNFPA.

Iraq inaugurates

First phase of Bekme dam

BAGHDAD, June 16, (AP) — Irrigation and Agriculture Minister Abdul Wahab Mahmoud has inaugurated the first phase of the big \$1.5 billion Bekme dam in northern Iraq, state-run newspapers reported today.

They said the ceremony was held at the dam 60 miles (100 kilometres) north of the Kurdish city of Arbil.

They did not say when the inauguration took place or give any details of the project. The Iraqi government considers information on dams as classified.

However, the Bekme dam is considered as one of the biggest in the world with a storage capacity of around 33 billion cubic metres of water.

Turkey's Enka construction company and Yugoslav's Hidrogranja, which specialises in dams, are building the dam, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1993.

Iraq and Turkey are in dispute over Ankara's move in January to block much of the flow of the Euphrates river.

Turkey, Syria fail to agree

Dispute over Euphrates water

ANKARA, June 16, (Reuters) — Talks aimed at improving relations between Turkey and Syria after decades of mistrust have failed to settle disputes over sharing vital Euphrates river water and curbing Kurdish rebels.

Official Turkish sources said there was no breakthrough on the two issues when Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara held discussions in Ankara on Thursday and Friday.

"I cannot say we were satisfied on security and there was no sign of any progress on water. There is no doubt the water issue will continue," a source close to the talks told Reuters.

Turkey, stung by a deadly guerrilla raid on June 10, wants Syria to clamp down on separatist Kurdish insurgents training in Lebanon's Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley.

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Cheney attempts to ease strained US-Israel dialogue

'Peace through talks not arms'

WASHINGTON, June 16, (AP) US-supplied weapons won't ensure Israeli security without successful negotiations with Palestinians and Arab states, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said yesterday.

Cheney, speaking before the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in New York City, attempted to ease the recently strained US-Israeli dialogue by stressing US commitment to peace in the Mideast as well as its "solid and unalterable" ties to Israel.

His remarks were monitored at the Defence Department.

The secretary also made a point of congratulating the new government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, saying the United States looks forward to working with him to secure peace.

Cheney made no direct mention of the sharp remarks that have been exchanged in recent days between Secretary of State James A. Baker and Shamir over Israel's commit-

ment to the peace process.

Cheney said that while both nations have "had our differences of opinion" about how best to pursue the peace process, "there is not an ally in the world with whom we have not had an occasional disagreement."

Strategic co-operation between the two nations has "become closer than ever" and Israel is in line to receive 35 per cent of the Bush administration's fiscal 1991 budget request for security assistance, Cheney said.

Israel is to begin taking delivery on its third order of F-16 fighter jets next year, will be getting its first delivery of Apache attack helicopters and is receiving funds to upgrade its navy, Cheney added.

Annually, Israel has received around \$3.1 billion dollars in a combination of military and economic aid from the United States.

Cheney advised, however, that such aid will not necessarily lead to peace in the volatile Mideast.

"Israel must remain strong to secure that peace, but weapons and technology alone are not sufficient," Cheney said. "Real security can only come through successful negotiations with Palestinians and Arab states that leads to a durable peace."

Baker, testifying before a Senate committee on Wednesday, urged Israel's new right-wing government to restart the stalled peace process.

He sarcastically recited the telephone number of the White House switchboard and said: "When you're serious about this, call us."

In return, Shamir blamed US criticism of Israel for stirring up growing Arab hostility toward the Jewish state.

"Aggressive intentions ... begin to surface in the Arab world as soon as they see cracks or breaches in the wall of friendship between Israel and the United States," Shamir said in an interview published yesterday in the Jerusalem Post.

America acting like colonial ruler: Israel

'We are not obligated to say yes to Baker'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 16, (Agencies): Israeli-US relations deteriorated yesterday with a top legislator accusing the US of acting like a colonial ruler and an aide to the prime minister criticising Washington's Middle East peace initiative.

Yossi Ben Aharon, director of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office, said the United States must stop pushing compromises on Israel and only deal with the country's May 1989 Middle East peace initiative.

Israel's initiative calls for Palestinian elections in the Israeli-occupied territories and talks with elected representatives on an interim period of

self-rule or autonomy.

"We are asking (Washington) to start from the beginning ... to get the process on a track that will not lead us to negotiations with a delegation composed by the PLO, and that will lead us into the danger of a Palestinian state," Ben Aharon said on Israel army radio.

"It is unacceptable that they (the Americans) return exactly to this point and propose the same questions to the new government that has been formed," he said.



A group of Palestinian students walk together after their first day of classes June 16 since Israeli authorities closed colleges and universities in the occupied territories three years ago. (Reuters wirephoto)

W. Bank campus opens

A test case

RAMALLAH, West Bank, June 16, (Reuters): Israeli military authorities today reopened the nursing faculty of one of six Palestinian universities ordered closed since the start of the Arab uprising.

Officials said the nursing college at Al Quds university was a test case and they would let other campuses reopen if there was no student unrest.

Ossama Najjar, 24, was starting his second year of medical technology studies when the college closed. He believes students will try to avoid confrontation and catch up on their

studies.

"Everybody will remember these long months, I think it will stay quiet," he said.

Occupation authorities ordered the universities to close in January 1988, days after the uprising erupted, saying they were centres of protest.

The partial reopening follows intense pressure from the United States and the European Economic Community, which suspended scientific co-operation with Israel in protest at the closures.

Diplomatic sources said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir might be trying to signal that his new

right-wing government would not necessarily be more repressive than the previous left-right coalition.

"The order (to close) was a blanket order covering all universities so I don't think that specific disturbances had any part in the closure," college President Toufik Shakhshir said.

Staff at the university's college of technology in the West Bank town of Abu Dis hope it could be next to reopen. The art and Islamic religion faculties in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem were exempted from the closure.



Mass prayer

A crowd of around 15,000 led by Ali Benhadj pray in the streets of Algiers near the Ibn-Badis de Kouba Mosque June 15. Radical Muslim fundamentalist preacher

Ali Benhadj lashed out at France and warned it not to intervene after his Islamic Salvation Front swept to victory in local elections. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets hint at difficult linkage

ABU DHABI, June 16, (AP): The Soviet Union is pressuring Arab states to abandon their moves to link a ban on chemical arms to one on nuclear weapons, the Al-Bayan reported today.

It claimed to have obtained a secret Soviet document to the 21-member Arab League stressing "the difficult linkage" between a chemical and a nuclear ban.

The Arabs claim Israel now has 200 nuclear weapons while two Arab states, Iraq and Libya, have been accused of producing chemical weapons.

Syria and Iran are also reported to have chemical weapons and several Arab states now have long-range missiles capable of hitting the Jewish state.

"Without drafting an independent international agreement banning chemical arms, there shall be no hope of drafting an international agreement banning nuclear arms," the paper quoted the Soviet document as saying.

The document purportedly advised Arab states that Moscow believed today's international realities stress the need for an international agreement banning chemical weapons.

The use of chemical weapons is banned under a 1925 Geneva protocol.

The Arab states have supported an initiative by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak calling for declaring the Middle East a region free of weapons of mass annihilation.

But Israel has not responded, thus freezing any possible Arab move toward their declared objective.

Arab League Secretary-General Cheddi Klibi said Israel's objection to calls banning nuclear weapons make it unreasonable to ask Arabs to abandon their efforts to acquire advanced weaponry and achieve a balance of power with the Jewish state.

Nidal fighter gunned down

TYRE, June 16, (Reuters): A radical Palestinian commando official loyal to Abu Nidal was killed today by unidentified gunmen in a shootout at a refugee camp in south Lebanon, security sources said.

They identified the slain commando as Omar Hamid, the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) commander in the Rashidiyah camp just south of Tyre, which is 80 km (50 miles) south of Beirut.

Another FRC official was seriously wounded in the brief exchange of machinegun fire, the sources said.

They said the shooting was related to an internal power struggle among FRC commanders over the leadership of Abu Nidal.

Freedom to continue

Algerian fundamentalists vow

ALGIERS, June 16, (Reuters): Algeria's fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which swept to victory in local elections on Tuesday, has promised to preserve multi-party democracy if it takes power nationally.

FIS leader Abbasi Madani, in a television debate broadcast last night, made his clearest statement yet that political freedom would continue under an Islamic state.

"We leave the word to the people. Whether we are in power or not, democracy means a diversity (of parties), choices and freedom. We have promised this, God willing, and we will keep this promise," Madani said.

The FIS won 55 per cent of the 1,541 municipal councils and two-thirds of the 48 provincial assemblies in the country's first free poll, trouncing the National Liberation Front that has ruled unchallenged for 28 years.

Rally for Culture and Democracy (RCD), a centre-left party run by ethnic Berbers that favours separation of state and religion, won 87 town councils.

RCD leader Said Saadi hit back at Madani on the same programme, saying, "when someone says they represent the shadow of God on earth (democracy) is finished."

Madani replied: "We do not impose ourselves on the people. They might find better than us."

Doubts about the commitment of the FIS to democracy were reinforced yesterday when one of its most popular figures, fiery young preacher Ali Benhadj, told a prayer meeting it made him sad to see Islam fought for in elections.

"We will never trade shura (an Islamic system of consensus) for democracy," he said.

Madani reiterated demands for early parliamentary elections, not due until 1992.

In Algiers, several dozen human rights and women's rights activists Friday announced the formation of a coalition called "Forum for Democracy" which would consider steps to protect civil liberties and ensure a full civil role for women.

Many Algerians who normally wear Western clothing appeared on the streets Friday in traditional garb — men in floor-length shirts called khamisas and women wearing veils.

Khadja Messaoudi, a founder of the new coalition and president of a women's rights group, said many women donned the veils and scarves as a sign of support for the fundamentalists but "as a passport in order to go out in the streets" without harassment.

Madani has said women will not be forced to wear the Islamic scarf, or hijab, but his followers have steadily pressured female students and teachers to adopt the traditional garb.

The government has not yet replied to Madani's demand to dissolve parliament and hold early national elections. It also has not responded to suggestions that the governing National Liberation Front propose a coalition with the fundamentalists.

Madani told journalists Friday that his party, if it won legislative elections, would be willing to operate under President Chadli Benjedid, whose five-year term expires at the end of 1993.

However, Madani did not rule out the possibility that he would seek the presidency.

Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood today congratulated Algeria's Islamic fundamentalist leaders for their victory in local elections.

"For the first time in a very long time ago, the government in a large Arab, Islamic country is converted peacefully and in less than two years from a totalitarian tyrannical regime to a system based on freedom, respect of human rights and people's will, and consultation," a press release issued by Hamed Abul-Nasr, leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, said.

Somalia about to explode

ROME, June 16, (Reuters): A Somali opposition figure has said dissent within the country is about to explode following a wave of arrests of critics of President Siad Barre.

"Paradoxically, Barre's latest reprisals could work in our favour by increasing dissent inside and outside the country," Ismail Jumale Osoble, leader of the united Somali congress, told the Italian news agency Ansa.

Israel facing housing shortages: influx pushes rents high forcing citizens to quit

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 16, (AP): Israel is fast running out of housing for Soviet Jews, and the country could face a severe shortage by year's end.

Government officials say more than 43,000 Soviet Jews have arrived this year, and the influx has pushed up rents in some areas, fueling protests by young Israelis that they are being priced out of the housing market.

"If something isn't done soon, we are going to have a social explosion," warned occupied Jerusalem's Deputy Mayor, Avraham Kehila.

The emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel has been running at record levels since Moscow relaxed exit policies in the spring of 1989, and the United States subsequently tightened its immigration rules.

Nearly 13,000 Soviets came to Israel in 1989. The 1990 total is expected to exceed 150,000, Israeli officials say.

Uri Shoshani, director of engineering and planning in the Housing Ministry, said Israel's estimated 20,000 vacant rental units will be filled in four months.

Three months later, Israel will have exhausted its

supply of "alternate" housing, such as holiday flats, army camps and off-season hotel rooms, he said.

He said the ministry has asked that 60,000 new units be built this year, or three times the rate of recent years.

But so far, ground has been broken for only 7,000 new homes, Shoshani said. "We're building as fast as we can but we're worried that there just won't be enough housing to go around," Shoshani said.

The shortage already is apparent in the modest-priced units that Soviet immigrant families can afford on government housing subsidies of \$237

monthly.

A recent survey by the Hebrew daily Hadashot showed rental prices had risen significantly. In suburban Nazareth, monthly rents for two-bedroom units have risen from \$80 to \$200 in the past year, Hadashot said. In Rishon LeZion near Tel Aviv, rents have doubled to \$600, and in occupied Jerusalem they are up 150 per cent to \$450, the paper said.

The increase has come about because landlords have raised rents on the cheapest apartments to match the Soviets' monthly subsidy.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Stop brutality against Arabs, says Kuwait

Information session opens

DAKAR, June 16. (Kuna): Kuwait has called for a halt of Israel's brutal practices against unarmed Arab civilians in the occupied Arab territories.

This call came in the address delivered yesterday by Kuwait's Ambassador to Senegal Suleiman Ibrahim Al Murjan at the opening session of the 3rd session of the Standing Committee for Information and Culture, an affiliate of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

Murjan emphasised the vital need to double efforts towards safeguarding the

identity of Islamic shrines and heritage.

Addressing the conference, the Kuwaiti ambassador brought back to mind the 1969 burning of the Aqsa Mosque at the hands of Zionists, saying that Muslims are urged to stop the Israelis from changing the mosque's Islamic features.

He added that Muslims are also called to end the Israeli repression and deportation of Palestinians, hoping the coming Islamic summit to be hosted by Dakar would mark a start for more co-operation among Muslims world-wide.

Taking the podium next was Senegalese President Abdou Diouf who emphasised the importance of information at present and said that the Islamic media institutions are urged to fortify solidarity among the Muslim peoples.

President Diouf proposed the establishment of a cultural society, to serve Islamic culture and civilisation.

For his part, OIC Secretary-General Hamed Al Ghabed said that the committee's meetings comes at an important

phase of Islamic history.

Ghabed noted that the OIC attaches great importance to the media, giving the international Islamic News Agency and the Organisation of Islamic Broadcasting as examples of the OIC's accomplishments.

The committee's meetings, which wind up today groups representatives from Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Bangladesh, Gabon, Indonesia, Morocco, Palestine, Oman, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Turkey.

More women opting for legal separation

Traditions changing

AS ON occasions divorce is the only way out of marital problems between a husband and wife, the phenomenon is world-wide and Kuwait is no exception.

To view its ramifications, a local daily conducted a survey of several females.

A female, who is a teacher by profession said that she had married three years ago and had one son, who is now two years old. She said that she and her husband had known each other for two years prior to their getting married and initially everything was smooth — despite their educational differences. She was a university graduate, she said and her husband dropped out of school in the fourth primary grade of education.

She said that her husband had not told her the facts about himself prior to getting married and had connived to deceive her. Elucidating, she said that when he first proposed marriage through her family, they had refused. Her father had informed her that the man had a medical problem and had spent considerable time at the psychiatric hospital. He also was a low paid employee at one of the ministries and had no savings. However, she said that she loved him very much and during their courtship they had made love and she was pregnant. Confronted with this dilemma, she said that her parents were forced to accept.

However, after a month of married life, she said that she was sure that her family was right and had spoken the truth. She had to pay his car instalments in full when a court order came to the house stating that her husband had not paid the dues for a long time. Additionally, after a few days, her husband was taken to the police station for misappropriating KD 2,000 and she had to make good.

To add to the woes, after two years of married life, her husband was admitted to the psychiatric hospital where he was

kept for four months. On his return from the hospital, she said that life became a living hell. One day on her return from her teaching job she said she was surprised to find that all the furniture from the house and electrical appliances had disappeared. The housemaid informed her that her husband had sold all the articles to pay some of his dues.

In spite of her best efforts to maintain the marriage, she said that there was no alternative — except divorce.

The second case involves a woman who had been married for 13 years and has five children — three daughters and two sons.

Impact

The woman who is employed at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour said that she knew that divorce has a strong impact on children, so she opted for a separation. She hired a good lawyer to see that the process is finalised with the least possible recriminations and ill-effects to her children.

She said that she had married her husband without knowing his past and that after marriage she discovered that he was married twice and that he had been divorced. She said that she had to live with this fact after her husband told her that he was unlucky in both previous marriages.

After four years of marriage, she said that her husband began to waste a lot of money for reasons that she could not comprehend. Subsequently, she said that she discovered that the money was being spent on several other women. Though, she tried to bring him to his senses, she said that she failed.

The issue was brought to a head one day she said when she returned home rather early to find her husband in the company of another woman in their family bedroom.

This was the final straw she said "that broke the camel's back" and she had no other alternative, but to seek a separation.

The third case is of a woman who was married seven years ago. She said that when she got married to her husband she was working at one of the private companies. Her only condition before marriage was that she would continue to keep on working. After five months of marriage her husband requested that she leave her job and stay home to take care of his two sons. She accepted her husband's proposal on condition that he should provide her with a monthly allowance.

She said that through the past five years she came to realise that her husband was very stingy and refused to pay money for the house and children. When she asked him for a separation he demanded a deed of cession from her. She said that the divorce was the only way out of living with a stingy husband.

The fourth case involves a 48-year-old woman who has been married for almost 33 years. Her eldest son is a teacher and her daughter works at the Ministry of Commerce after graduating from college. She also has five grandchildren. She is demanding divorce after 33 years of marriage.

She said after a long time of sharing expenses her husband received his full retirement pension and decided to sell part of it in order to start up his own business importing clothes from Asian countries.

She added that her husband's business was prospering but, to her surprise her husband was totally changed when he came back from a business trip. She found out that her husband is involved with an Asian female who is only 25 years old. Her husband took all of his money and sold all of his stuff and left her. He is now married to that same female he met in one of the Asian countries. She said that she is asking for divorce because her husband does not deserve any

NEWS IN BRIEF

Irish minister

KUWAIT, June 16. (Kuna): Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit to the country.

He was greeted upon arrival by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saud Mohammed Al Ossaimi, Acting Foreign Undersecretary Faisal Al Saleh Al Mutawa and senior ministry officials.

The visiting Irish minister met with HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today.

Collins, who is the current chairman of the EEC ministerial council, will also hold talks with Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Athbi on bilateral relations, the Euro-Arab dialogue in general and the EEC-GCC dialogue in particular, in addition to other issues of mutual concern.

TT Centre

THE Test Tube Babies Centre has recently resumed its activities after a year of inactivity due to technical reasons, the director of the centre, Dr Mahmood Al-Awadh said. He disclosed that there are about 20 women currently undergoing the test tube experiment.

Meanwhile, he confirmed that the number of patients will double in the near future as there are about 700 women in Kuwait who desire to undergo the process.

Gulf Air

MUSCAT, June 16. (Kuna): The Gulf Air, owned jointly by the Sultanate of Oman, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain is to purchase six Boeing 767 planes to train four aircraft of this type already in service.

The decision was reached during the meeting of the company's board of directors here Thursday.

The meeting also agreed to launch new lines from Muscat to other ports but the company did not disclose the destinations.

Islamic curricula

BAGHDAD, June 16. (Reuters): Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) member states decided yesterday to unify the curricula in their Islamic religious schools and institutes.

The decision was made at a meeting of endowment and religious affairs ministers of the ACC member states of Iraq, Jordan and Yemen.

The ministers called for unification of Islamic laws in their countries, particularly covering the fields of pilgrimage to Makkah, Zakat (Islamic tax) and endowment.

Iraqi dam

BAGHDAD, June 16. (Reuters): Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Abdul Wahab Mahmoud inaugurated the first phase of northern Iraq's big Bakhma Dam yesterday.

Built on the greater Zab river in the autonomous region of Kurdistan, the dam will generate electricity, control flooding and irrigate an area diplomats estimate at 565,000 hectares (2,200 square miles).

The dam, at Erbil, is about 20 kms (12 miles) south of Turkey and about 40 kms (24 miles) west of Iran.

Construction began a year before the end of the 1980-88 Gulf war. Diplomats say the first phase cost more than 1.4 billion dollars.

Bakhma is being built by a consortium of the US Bechtel Corporation, Yugoslav Hidrogradina and Turkish Enka companies. The inauguration was reported by official Iraqi News Agency.

Emergency landing

CAIRO, June 16. (Reuters): A small plane belonging to Saudi Arabia's national airline Saudia made a forced landing yesterday at an airport east of Cairo, an official at Cairo's international airport said.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency Mena said the plane reported engine troubles while crossing Egyptian airspace and asked for permission to make an emergency landing.

Mena said fire tenders, ambulances and security forces joined the runway but the plane landed safely.



Contract signed

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Defence, Faisal Ali Al Dawoud signed a contract with one of the national companies for the construction of some ministry buildings. The contract is aimed at developing and modernising Kuwait Armed Forces.

US senate committee debate

Administration opposes sanctions against Iraq

WASHINGTON, June 16. (Kuna): US Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East John Kelly stressed here yesterday the importance of maintaining good relations with Iraq and came out against senate attempts to impose sanctions against that country.

Kelly, the state department's top official on the Middle East, predicted that the Arabian Gulf region and Iraq will "increase in importance to US national security and interests" in the 1990s.

"Now and in the future, Iraq will play a major role in the Gulf, whatever US policy is," Kelly said.

The senior American official made these and other wide-ranging comments during a testimony before the senate foreign relations committee convened especially to review US relations with Iraq.

The meeting came amid mounting efforts by pro-Israeli congressmen aimed at imposing wide-ranging sanctions against Iraq. But the Bush administration, as Kelly outlined yesterday, was strongly opposed to the imposition of any sanctions against Iraq.

The state department official emphasised, however, that the Bush administration would like to see Iraq "work towards stability in the Gulf, human rights for its citizens, moderation in the Middle East process, and effective global implementation of all international understandings and agreements regarding nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons."

Criticism

While Kelly and other officials and witnesses criticised Iraq's human rights record, the state department official outlined to congressmen many of the positive steps that Iraq has taken in recent years.

As listed by Kelly, these include: expulsion of the Abu Nidal group from Iraq, co-operation with Arab League efforts to end fighting in Lebanon, the discussion of a new constitution for Iraq, participating in the 1989 Paris conference on chemical weapons, and Iraq's clear indication that it will not obstruct the parties directly involved in the Middle East process.

But a number of recent measures by Iraq have caused worry to the United States, according to Kelly. These include Iraq's criticism of US presence in the Gulf and the launch of the missiles.

Despite claims to the contrary by critical American congressmen, Kelly told them emphatically that "we do not believe that Iraq poses a near-term nuclear proliferation threat."

He noted that Iraq's fissile material is under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and is inspected regularly.

And in a bid to prevent the imposition of sanctions against Iraq by a hostile congress, Kelly made it clear to committee members that the administration is opposed to such sanctions because they will not work.

"Based on past experience, we do not believe that legislating unilateral trade and economic sanctions would help us to achieve US goals with Iraq."

He added, "to be effective, economic sanctions should be imposed on a multilateral basis. There is no prospect of this in the case of Iraq."

Sanctions

In addition, he said sanctions would definitely hurt US exporters and worsen the American trade deficit. "Sanctions would not improve our ability to exercise a restraining influence on Iraqi sanctions," the senior official told committee members.

Kelly concluded, "We believe it is important to give the government of Iraq an opportunity to demonstrate that it can act to reverse this deterioration in relations. We are therefore opposed to legislation which would impose economic sanctions...."

The US has a number of co-operation programmes with Iraq, none of which is aid. "US taxpayer dollars do not go to Iraq," Kelly assured congressmen at one point.

The largest co-operation programme between the two countries is that of credit guarantees, which is run by the Department of Agriculture.

According to this programme, the US exported about 1.5 billion in agricultural commodities to Iraq in 1989.

This year, Kelly said, the US has provided Iraq some \$500 million in credit insurance under this programme. Release of further guarantees for this fiscal year has been deferred pending the outcome of investigations by the departments of agriculture and justice.

Another programme involves the US Export-Import Bank, which has short-term revolving credit insurance programme of about \$200 million.

Organ donation continuous giving

DONATIONS of organs after death is considered a noble and human act. The need to donate organs emanates from the importance to save the life of others who live constantly in pain and fear of death.

Humanity and science place high values on alleviating the sufferings by undertaking transplants and continually call for organ donations — before or after death. In this respect Islamic rulings have now permitted transplanting of organs — within certain stipulations.

A local daily interviewed a number of citizens to highlight their opinions on the issue of organ donation and transplants and here are a few excerpts.

Doctor Mohammed Al Mousawi states that scientific advancements in the medical field led to successful solutions for many illnesses. He stressed that Islam is a religion of science and development adding that it considered donation of organs to be a continuous giving. Future will carry further advancements in this field.

He added that the role of Kuwait Organs Transplant Society is considered of high importance under scientific and medical developments in this field. The role of the society put more emphasis on the process of providing citizens with more awareness by spreading the co-operation spirit and unity in the field of organs transplant.

He added that Kuwait Organs Transplant Society co-operates with some government and private establishments in presenting ill citizens with assistance. Such assistance is represented by giving travel tickets to patients. The society also backs up scientific research in the field of organs transplant.

Matiouba Abdul Majeed stated that she does not oppose donating her organs to patients as far as it is an act of giving.

Fatema Mohammed on the other hand stated that donation of organs after death is a very civilised idea adding that it important to test the condition of donors before conducting the

transplant. Doctor Fathi Shaqoor stated that Islam permitted the donation of organs during life and after death in accordance with some conditions.

Doctor Subhi Al Aqad stated that the idea is humane and noble and it will save the life of many individuals.

Aqueel Karama stressed the importance of organs transplant adding that he is willing to donate his organs as a humane act and that the day may come when he needs somebody to donate his organs to him.

Raja Al Saleh supported the donation of organs on the condition that the donor must be dead.

Aisha Al Yaqoot stressed that citizens should realise the importance of organs donation. She stated that as far as religion permits organs donation she does not see anything wrong with it.

On the other hand, Jamal Al Ali pointed out that local donation is far better than importing kidneys and other organs from other countries.

Kuwaitis 56.1 pc in public schools

ACCORDING to a statistical release issued by the Planning Department at the Education Ministry the total number of students in all public sectors schools has reached 373,718, boys and girls, of which 209,757 students are Kuwaitis, accounting for 56.1 per cent.

The release said that the highest percentage of students in the public education sector was among Kuwaiti students in the capital schools, where the total number of students was 51,029, boys and girls, of whom 34,457 were Kuwaitis, accounting for 67.5 per cent of the total number.

The release said the lowest percentage of Kuwaiti students was recorded in Jahra, where the total number of students was 74,480, of whom 25,454 were Kuwaitis accounting for 34.1 per cent.

The release also added that the largest number of kindergarten students was recorded in Hawally educational area where the total number of students was recorded at 8,759 boys and girls, of whom 8,338 were Kuwaitis, accounting for 95.2 per cent.

The largest number of intermediate students was recorded in the Farwaniya educational area as the total number recorded was 28,150, boys and girls, of whom Kuwaitis form 15,679 accounting for 55.7 per cent.

Political pluralism guaranteed, says Saleh

KUWAIT, June 16. (Kuna): President of the Republic of Yemen Ali Abdallah Saleh has ruled out that the reunified Yemeni state would become another Lebanon, due to its leadership structure.

In an interview with a local daily, President Saleh affirmed that all Yemenis, northerners or southerners, are keen to realise the supreme interest of their motherland.

The Yemeni president was responding to a question on whether having northerners in top positions with southerners as their assistants would have a negative effect on the future of the republic.

He said that the constitution of the new state guarantees political pluralism, while the economic system is based on integration among the public, private and co-operative sectors.

In this line, President Saleh said that Yemen will witness many economic activities in the coming years, with special focus on future development plans, adding that Aden will play a vital part in the prosperity of the Yemeni economy.

Regarding Arab support needed for the new state, he indicated that Yemenis will aim at utilising their resources in the most ideal way to cope with the new status of the country, but affirmed that any Arab contribution in this respect is welcome.

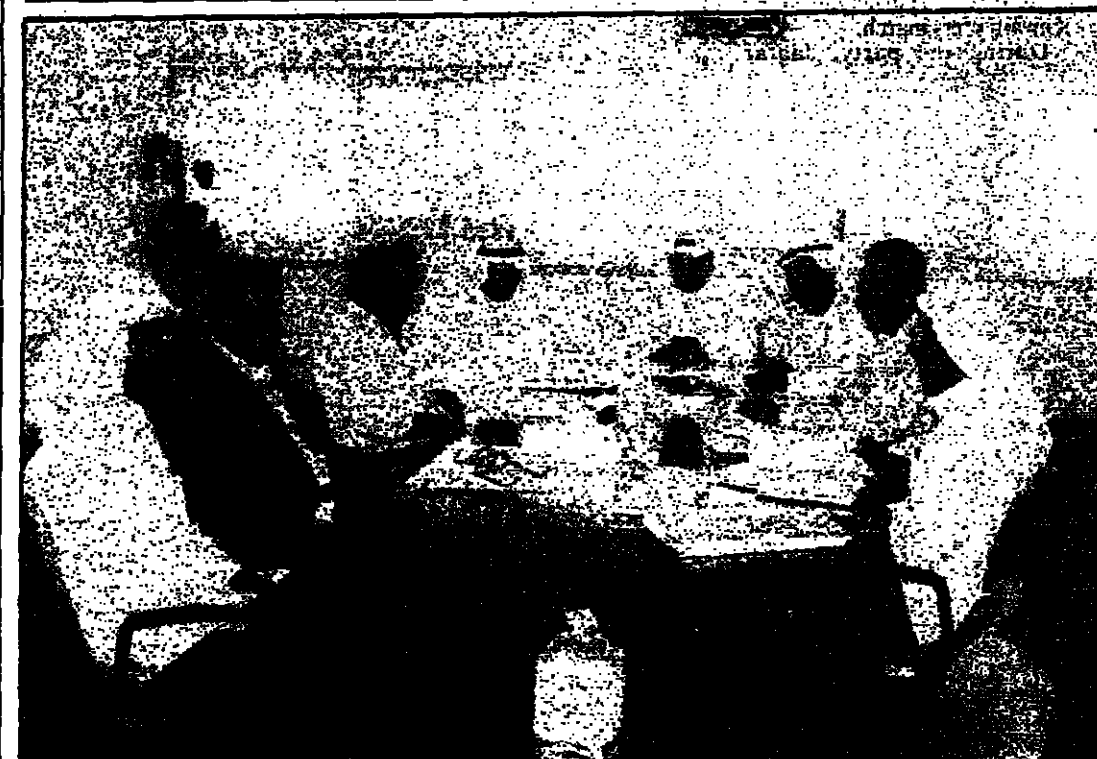
Smugglers apprehended

SECURITY police of the Al Jahra Governorate recently apprehended a gang engaged in smuggling and selling a large quantity of liquor in the country, local daily reported.

According to police sources, a security patrol at Al Salmi road pursued a car driven by the alleged smuggler identified as M.A., a Kuwaiti national and on searching the vehicle discovered 202 bottles of whiskey.

During investigations the accused confessed that he had an accomplice who was a stateless person. A police search successfully apprehended the suspect. Further investigation of the suspects led police to uncover a large quantity of whiskey which they had buried near the camel race track.

Investigations are in progress and the suspects have been remanded to police custody.



Anti-illiteracy activities

Head of Information and Documentation Committee emanating from Kuwait Committee for International Illiteracy Eradication Year, Bader Abdullah Al Madairi announced that the committee held several meetings attended by Abdul Aziz Al Najdi, director of the Elders Education and Illiteracy Eradication Department at the Ministry of Education.

He stated that Abdul Aziz indicated efforts exerted by branch committees during the past six months. Such efforts were fruitful in making a comprehensive programmed plan for celebrations for this international year. He added that special informative

plans were also prepared by the information committee for celebrations.

According to the proposed plan, June will witness several activities which include research work on combating illiteracy locally and internationally. In addition to awareness towards the necessity of fighting illiteracy via youth societies, unions and clubs.

He added that the information committee will supervise the publishing and printing of posters and information publications along with holding some lectures at summer clubs and youth centres.

Trouble with Mauritania

Senegal to resolve dispute

KUWAIT, June 16. (Kuna): Senegal's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Omar Sey has said that he will soon meet Mauritanian foreign minister in Paris without pre-conditions to solve the dispute between the two countries.

In two separate interviews with local dailies, the Senegalese minister, who recently concluded a visit to Kuwait, said that the Mauritanian-Senegalese meeting's agenda will be open and each party can discuss what it finds appropriate.

He said that demarcation between the two countries will be one of the major issues of discussion, denying that his country made the demarcation as the base for the talks.

He said that compensation to Mauritania as a result of the incidents that happened between the two peoples in Senegal is a

simple issue that can be discussed in Paris.

He revealed that Senegal accepted three recommendations submitted by the Egyptian president within his peace efforts between the two countries.

These recommendations include resumption of aviation between the two countries, restoration of diplomatic relations and preparation for a Senegalese-Mauritanian summit meeting.

Regarding the restoration of diplomatic relations between Israel and some African countries, Sey said that Senegal does not think of restoring ties with the Zionist entity, noting that Israel should recognise the Palestinian people's right of establishing their independent state and to withdraw from the territories it occupies.

Asked on reports that Mauritania has deployed Iraqi

missiles on its territories, he said Senegal does not have the technological means to verify these reports but he believes that such reports are to establish an arms race in the region.

He affirmed in this context that Senegal has good relations with Iraq, recalling that his country supported Iraq during its war with Iran.

During his recent visit to Kuwait Sey delivered a message to HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah from the Senegalese President Abdou Diouf on Senegal's preparations to host the next Islamic Summit early next year.

He praised his talks with His Highness the Amir, noting that he conveyed Diouf's thanks for Kuwait's important participation in preparing for the next Islamic summit.

Avoid functional duplication in oil sector: Dabbous

Need for industrialists union dismissed

THE managing director at the Kuwait Refineries Engineering and Maintenance Industries Company Ghanim Hamad Al Dabbous has stressed the need to unify all points of contact for investors in the oil sector under one corporate body to facilitate the processing of all required transactions.

He told a local daily that the major field of activity in Kuwait is trading. He warned of functional duplication between the Kuwait Union of Industrialists and the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He said that Kuwait has a few simple industries, but main government financial support is centred on the oil and oil-related industries. He also pointed out that no real industry exists in Kuwait in the true sense of the term.

He added that the main reason behind such a situation is the absence of raw material. What we call industrial activity here in Kuwait, is actually nothing but a process of assembly of imported parts, Dabbous said.

The Kuwait Refining and Maintenance Industries Company carries out all necessary servicing and maintenance to oil refineries in Kuwait, and therefore it has the largest population of staff.

Services

He said that the company also is responsible for maintaining Mina Ahmadi, Mina Abdullah and Mina Shuaiba. Services given include all facilities from A to Z.

Dabbous said that the company also cooperates with foreign companies in rendering other services wherever needed in oil installations, and that the spare parts provided are either imported or locally produced, depending on the type and availability of needed materials.

The company provides its services to vital oil installations in accordance with official long-term contracts, and therefore public tenders are continuously invited to vary the contractors dealt with in order to keep the level of performance high and quality at its best, Dabbous said.

He added that the emergence of an industrialists union will create functional duplication with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as it is not possible for both to have complementary functions.

He further said that the company provided help and counsel to factories having problems with government agencies. He pointed out that the chamber also provided counsel and help to solve disputes of commercial nature instead of resorting to international arbitration.

He stressed that there is no need for an industrialists union in Kuwait as frankly there is no real industry for the lack of needed raw materials, whereas the oil industry is a different matter and this is a purely government-owned industry.

He stressed the importance of the element of efficient management at factories as a pre-requisite for successful and continued operation adding that there is no need for the proposed establishment of a public industrial authority, as the functions and role currently played by the chamber and the relevant government bodies is just enough under the circumstances.

Minimise red tape in industry: Ajeel

'Tailor technology to needs'

ALL industrial authorities should be merged into one centralised body to minimise red tape and save time of industrial investors by processing all transactions through this single means of communications, the deputy director-general at Al Shuaiba Industrial Authority and member at the board of directors of the Industrial Bank of Kuwait, Naser Al Ajeel said.

The official added that industry in Kuwait suffers from a lack of a comprehensive strategy to develop relevant laws. The industrial law was enacted in 1965 and is not in keeping with current developments. In this respect, the official said that the minister of commerce and industry is currently paying special attention and a specialised committee has been formed to redress this issue.

Ajeel pointed out that according to current procedures, the investor needs about 18 months to have the necessary licence after completion of the feasibility study of the project as compared to other countries where the time factor does not exceed two months.

Protection

Meanwhile, the official disclosed that the relevant studies for setting up a public authority for industrialisation in the country had been finalised in 1980. He added that the Al Shuaiba Industrial Authority through its 26 years of experience in the industrial field could constitute a nucleus for the proposed authority, provided that this authority should be given the necessary powers and should be responsible for planning, managing and organising the industrial sector in the country. He also said that the Al Shuaiba Industrial Authority had been established in 1964 in accordance with an Amiri Decree and had been transferred to an industrial area from a populated location and had been designed to become a

nucleus for an ideal industrial community.

The authority during the past years had extended industrial plots to investors, leased plots for industrialists at token charges in addition to setting up necessary registration stations which aim at supplying oil and petrochemical industries with their needs of sea-cooled water. Also the authority had set up a centre at a cost of several million Kuwaiti Dinars to afford protection to the community from pollution.

In accordance with recommendations adopted by the seminar held last year, to mark the 25th anniversary of the authority, it had formed a working team to study the feasibility for setting up a central workshop. The team recommended that the workshop should be situated at Al Shuaiba Port and Mina Abdullah area as 35 plants are located in these two areas.

Commenting on the concern given by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry to the commercial sector at the expense of the industrial entity, the official said that we should bear in mind that Kuwait is a commercial country and its location could qualify it to become a distinct commercial centre. He added that in view of the shortage of raw materials, priority should be accorded to the oil industry and its related derivatives, including petrochemicals.

He said that to provide an industrial environment, necessary concern should be extended to graduates, particularly to those of Kuwait University and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. Industrial policy should focus on graduates of these institutions to meet market requirements for economists and scientists to create a new productive base.

Additionally, authorities

should be selective in their choice of technology transfer from abroad to Kuwait and tailor such technology to their specific needs. The expansion in the industrial sector will provide new job opportunities and redress the veiled unemployment prevailing in the government sector and further provide technical development of all sectors, including services. In this respect, he said that industrial development should give serious consideration to the creation of job opportunities.

Objectives

Ajeel called for clear and precise objectives of the industrial process in Kuwait and suggested that future industrial projects should keep abreast with the country's oil industries. He said: "Industrialisation is not just setting up industrial units, but should be capable of offsetting capital costs in addition to gaining adequate margins of profit."

Obstacles to industrial development of the country reflected the lack of industrial strategy which should define industrial priorities, the high commercial and financial risks and the poor yields of the industrial projects, including the vision of the private sector to invest in the industrial field in the absence of the authorities' expertise to submit an appropriate industrial project.

Speaking of the efforts to encourage the country's industrial sector, by the Industrial Bank of Kuwait, the official said that the bank extended concessional loans to industrialists and its positive role has been well acclaimed. He added that the objectives of the Industrial Bank were different from those of development banks elsewhere.

The national workforce at Al Shuaiba Industrial Authority comprises 30 per cent of staff, unlike other government authorities whose level is 18 per cent, Ajeel said.

Jaafar retires after 40 years

KUWAIT, June 16, (Kuna): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Ahmed Al Sabah today hailed the achievements of former information undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jaafar in a party held in honour of him on the occasion of his retirement.

In a speech, Sheikh Jaber spoke highly about the hard work undertaken by Jaafar over more than 40 years in the mass media sector.

He expressed hope that the experience of Jaafar would be benefited from in the future through the advice he can give.

Assistant undersecretary for radio affairs Dr Abdul Aziz Al Mansour also delivered a speech in which he lauded the efforts exerted by Jaafar over more than 40 years and requested him to give counsel to the different Kuwaiti mass media so as to advance and realise the hoped-for objectives.

Jaafar also delivered a speech in which he expressed thanks to all former information ministers and Sheikh Jaber who gave him the confidence and support that enabled him to participate in the Kuwaiti press march.

During the party, Jaafar received two cables of appreciation from Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah and Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed for the prominent role he assumed in the Kuwaiti press march.

Saddam in Sanaa

BAGHDAD, June 16, (Reuters): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein arrived in Sanaa today on a surprise visit to the new Republic of Yemen, the Iraqi News Agency reported.

It said he was welcomed at the airport by President Ali Abdullah Saleh.



Saline plants project

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid toured the Saline plants agriculture project located at the Jahra-Subiya road recently.

The minister was escorted by the board director of the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, Sheikh Ibrahim Duail Al Sabah, and the Director-General of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Dr Ahmed Al Jassar and a number of officials.

Sheikh Ibrahim pointed out that this is one of the most important projects at the General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources. He added that the authority and KISR co-operated in order to exchange information on the project and to achieve ideal methods of irrigation in a country like Kuwait which lacks fresh water resources.

He added that expansions will be made to implement this project due to the importance of this type of agriculture in giving a new source of food for livestock in the country. He pointed out that plants included in the project used saline water from the sea.



Self-improvement courses

Kapilku to award certificates

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold the award ceremony of the certificate of attendance for three courses which were held last year namely, tailoring, book-keeping and basic accounting and basic computer, on Thursday, July 5, 1990 at Araya's Restaurant, the sponsor, starting at 8.00 pm.

The guests of honour are HE Ambassador Dr Mauryang Mohammad Tamano and his wife, Madame Norombai Tamano who will award the certificates to all successful participants.

Outgoing Kapilku President Manny Insento announced that the proceeds of this graduation ball will be donated to the school funds of the embassy.

All participants of the courses are requested to contact Sarab Macarimbang, outgoing Kapilku vice-president for social and cultural affairs, on telephone numbers 4839009, 4839889 and 4843447 for reservation. Buffet dinner will be served at KD3 for the occasion.

The following are the successful participants for the three self-improvement courses.

Tailoring

Marilou S. Sangcaan, Melba D. Cando, Delia Esteban, Miran D. Alfior, Marissa D. Dionisio, Lorena Calderon, Magdalena P. Lazalia, Andres Alcantara, Sittie Suiada Pisin-gan, Virgilio S. Bagan, Pang-a, Virgilio S. Bagan, Ruth A. Aleon A. Quero Jr., Reverdo, Roman, Mary F. Reverdo, Albertina Pereira, Milagros L. Ebio, Socorro M. Braga, Rita

Aligo, Corazon V. Bacuetes, Elsa T. Villalobos, Rustico C. de Villa, Minerva Mappala, Consuelo T. Recto, Lourdes Recio, Rosita B. Caballa, Lourdes D'Souza, Anne Fernandez, Luz G. Boco, Norma C. Baldomar, Susie A. Lutap, Josefina M. Cruz, Pacita B. Rosales, Ruth A. Roman.

Chairman: Ojie Olor, outgoing Kapilku vice-president for welfare and special projects.

Instructors: Bayani Trinidad, Eli Antolin

Book-keeping and basic accounting

Reynato M. Adones, Obdulio I. de los Angeles, Joey U. Manalastas, Leonora G. Tomacruz, Marissa L. Agripa, Elsa T. Vargas, Benny Perez, Luz C. Boco, Rosita B. Caballa, Teresita S. Bella, Socorro M. Braga, Julieta A. Dulla, Lorna V. Bisquera, Lourdes E. Recio, Benjamin Tajan-Tajan, Wilfredo P. Caballal, Pedro Fruelda Jr., Helen V. Gamboa, Rosmary P. Garcia, Carlos Edilberto G. Alcos, Esther O. Salvador, Joel L. Abuel, Marian Laygo, Arturo D. Tapia, Lorenzo C. Caballo, Thaddeus U. Guison, Anne P. Fernandez, Gilgerto E. Santiago, Jocelyn L. Portaleza, Evangelina S. Insento, Lorena H. Calderon, Marissa C. Dionisio, Melba D. Cando, Jeric Jude H. Jordan, Romulo E. Iadeo, Estelito P. Canlasa, Virgilio S. Bagan, Sittie Suiada S. Pisin-gan, Pedro Fruelda Jr.

Chairperson: Sarah Macarimbang, outgoing Kapilku vice-president, social and cultural affairs.

Lecturers: Jun Arenas, Delfin Yambot, Joe Sta Maria, Manny Insento

Basic computer

Eden A. Loyola, Vicky D. Lucero, Lea Q. Castillo, Helene C. Quiao, Rosalina P. Herrera, Cynthia B. Andawey, Concepcion G. Oprilla, Maridel M. Fabra, Zoraida A. Radoc, Rosmary P. Garcia, Madelyn Uanang, Jumanah D. El Jechi, Esperanza Milan, Jenelyn Fortaleza, Jocelyn Mission, Nomi S. Lim, Rosa Reitia, Concepcion A. Nisperos, Leonora Tamacruz, Obdulio I. de los Angeles, Annabelle Lawagan, Elizabeth Romas, Edeza Reyes, Eloisa de Guzman, Esther O. Salvador, Florence D. valeros, Evangelina S. Insento, Angelita B. Maranan, Sittie Suiada S. Pisin-gan, Virginia Ramos, Estrellita C. Dawis, Leoncia A. Ponce, Luz G. Boco, Isidra B. Malijan, Pacita B. Carlos, Feliciano J. Fajardo, Rose Luna, Helen Camboa, Teresita Hynson, Rebecca Bosa, Rizma Marie Espedilla, Arlene M. Medina, Julieta A. Dulla, Consuelo T. Recto, Joy Cabacan, Andrea Ramos, Baby M. Alegre, Ma Susan C. Dadua, Neldia L. Manasid, Joanita Carvalho, Elsa T. Vargas, Lourdes E. Recio, Ma Teresita L. San Diego, Remedios C. Escalada, Elsa B. Caparon, Elisa F. Santos, Leonila P. Pirog, Sumaya Al Mokhtar, Arlene M. Arenas, Marissa L. Agripa, Priscilla Badua, Marissa C. Villanueva, Brenda P. Poncajan, Winnie de Castro, Rosita B. Caballa, Angelita M. Borja, Belen G. Estrella, Ligaya Florentino,

Magdalena Lopez, Marina Laygo, Reynaldo R. Chavez, Nestor R. Efa, Umar Husain, Ahmed Thalil, Teofilo A. Paleng, Carlos L. Ison, Arnel M. Nuque, Arnulfo T. Navarro, Jaime S. Cainto, Joseph G. Viloria, Paulino R. Clores, Eduardo C. Trugillo, Decoroso V. Domaal, Ronald Felix C. Diaz, Anselmo Campos, Ricardo C. Cruz Jr., Anacleto Amado, Michael Malapitan, Jose S. Isidoro, Eduardo B. Bolata, Trifon C. Abing, Nonato Angeles, Erwin Estorninos, Virgilio S. Bagan, Gregorio R. Caballal, Benjamin A. Tajan-Tajan, Thaddeus U. Guison, Neomilo C. Oroy, Harriet A. Bolante, Rodrigo A. Nabua, Wilfredo P. Caballal, Vicente Y. Corpuz, Ricardo S. Cortes, Ariel P. Agustin, Luther U. Rama, Godofredo D. Tumangday, Rosario Duaoal, Nicanor A. Odejar, Genessius L. Rana, Rey Madato, Alfredo Miranda, Jimmy Santos, Arturo D. Tapia, Victor J. Mabana, Pablo D. Divinagracia, Delfin G. Yambot, Pedro Fruelda, Maximino V. Recto Jr., T.D. Soni, Ruben S. Espedilla, Renato Adonis, Mario P. Tanga-an, Jun Arenas, Robin Eugene Espedilla, Felizardo B. Ruazol, Lorenzo Caballo, Samuel Aurellano, Emilio Caisido Jr., Gilbert E. Santiago, Floro Penicoste, Ike M. Abayato, Carlos Edilberto G. Alcos, Brendo D. Rivera, Benny Perez.

Chairman: Beda Borja, outgoing Kapilku auditor

Lecturers: Joel Bonecillo, Rudy Ocampo, Jonathan Gonzales, Arlene Bonecillo

EEC policy Mideast peace main goal

KUWAIT, June 16, (Kuna): Irish Foreign Minister Gerard Collins has affirmed that the holding of an international Mideast Peace Conference is a key goal in the EEC policy and stressed that his government is all for such a conference.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with a local daily Collins said: "There is no solution to the Middle East (problem) except by granting Palestinians the right to self-determination."

He hoped that the Palestinian state, which was declared Nov 15, 1988, would become a reality, following a UN-sponsored international conference, in which all the parties concerned take part, including the PLO "which we have recognised its role and right in representing the Palestinian people."

Collins indicated that EEC states are keen to search for the most ideal ways to pressure Israel into accepting a peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis or to push forward the peace process in the region.

He noted: "A known fact must be made clear, namely that there is no power or country in the world that can impose peace on Israel."

Asked if the Middle East is on the brink of an Arab-Israeli war, the Irish minister replied: "I think the atmosphere is tense enough and I do not want to make them even worse."

He also praised the US role in resolving the Mideast problem and said that EEC states are equally important, but have a different role, bringing back to mind the support for residents of the occupied territories until 1992, endorsed by EEC countries in their Strasbourg meeting.

Threat

On the EEC stance toward transforming the Middle East into a nuclear and chemical-free zone, Collins noted that the EEC statement last April has expressed the community's worry at the increasing threat to peace as a result of the use of such weapons.

Collins, who is also the current EEC chairman, denied that the community had stopped worrying over the situation in Lebanon and said that EEC has never ceased its humanitarian aid to Lebanon, nor its co-operation with the Arab Tripartite Committee toward implementing the Taif Accord.

Haj traffic

ABU DHABI, June 16, (Kuna): Officers from the Gulf Co-operation Council states will take part in organising traffic movement in Saudi Arabia during this year's haj season.

The UAE Ministry of Interior today said that it had sent two officers to represent the UAE for this purpose.



Hadi Al Houwaila

Fayez Al Bougaili

Council to bridge gap, say members

By Lima Al Khalafawi Arab Times staff

HADI HAYEF AL HOUWAILA, the Rigga representative at the National Council said that the National Council will be bridging the gap created after the parliament was dissolved in 1986 and will also assess citizens' needs.

Houwaila, an ex-member of 1975, 1980 and 1985 National Assemblies believes in the council's future role in reviewing laws approved by the parliament and added that he will call for reducing the four-year period of the council.

The ex-member of Ahmadi governorate council said that the Interim Council has to study minutes and set up restrictions on the parliament. About the future possibility of contesting elections for parliament, Houwaila said "I'll cross that bridge when I come to it."

Fayez Al Bougaili believes that the National Council is the only democratic way for continuing a wise dialogue to exchange views in a legal frame.

Bougaili, an ex-member of 1981 parliament session said the council will evaluate the past parliamentary experience in one-family atmosphere, away from fanaticism.

For Bougaili, fulfilling people's demands is also on top of his list. He will call for writing off social security pension loans and increase housing loans.

The National Council member will focus on other issues such as reducing service-fees charged by some ministries and writing off the remaining amount of loans for owners of limited-income houses.

Bougaili said that he will raise the issue of reimbursing the honorary medals amount discontinued for police and army officers after they retire.

No bail for drug smugglers

THE public prosecution has reportedly issued a decision providing for the detention of drug smugglers without bail until the completion of investigations.

A local daily said that Jabriya securitymen recently apprehended a ten-member drug ring all of whom were of Kuwaiti nationality ranging in ages between 25 to 30 years.

A police force who raided the residence of one of the members of the gang discovered a special room tailored to smoke dope and equipped with all types of drugs, including specialised medical resuscitating equipment which is used to redress the ill-effects of drug overdoses without the need of visiting a doctor.

Initial information reveals that seven of the drug ring members are jobless ex-convicts who depend on their source of supply on a man they referred to as the "Masterbrains" whom the public prosecution and criminal intelligence department have called in for questioning.

Omar in Muscat

MUSCAT, June 16, (Kuna): The secretary-general of the Kuwaiti Council for Culture, Arts and Letters Dr Farouq Al Omar arrived here today to participate in the third meeting for Gulf Co-operation Council states' ministers in charge of culture.

The Kuwaiti official and the accompanying delegation was received by the undersecretary of National Heritage and Culture Ministry Salem Bin Ismail Soweid and the charge d'affaires of Kuwait embassy.

Special education for handicapped

DIRECTOR of the Special Education Department at the Ministry of Education, Mohammed Al Hameedi said the government is keen to provide the handicapped with the necessary educational and qualifying requirements. He stated that such achievements have made special education in Kuwait quite advanced in the Arab world.

Interviewed by a local daily, he added that a number of high-level committees have been formed to study educational and rehabilitation conditions of special education students. He added that committees will also study the development acts necessary for enhancing plans and curricula in order to achieve ideal care.

He pointed out that curricula at special education primary grade have been totally reoriented. He stated that the rehabilitation programme of handicapped accordingly will be pursued for a period of six years.

He indicated that the total number of students at special education schools are presently numbered at 2,000 and staff at these schools total 460 teachers. He indicated that the department is facing shortages in the teaching staff of some handicapped fields.

He pointed out that 15 per cent of students at special education institutes are from GCC states with 230 students belonging to outside

scholarships. Special measures were adopted at the Special Education Department in order to develop curricula in 1980. He pointed out that special efforts were made to complete development of the rehabilitation and primary stages.

He added that shortages among the teaching staff of some sections is being covered by two resources namely by hiring special education teachers from abroad, particularly from Jordan and Egypt and through national elements. He stated that the department is willing to train nationals interested in the field.

Regarding parents co-operation with the department, Hameedi said that high success and advancement in the field was made possible by the strong co-operation of parents. He said that such co-operation is represented by the parents sessions and lectures organised during open days at schools. Other activities held at special education schools include the holding of an educational handicrafts exhibition during March this year. He added that the Special Education Department at the Ministry of Education will organise a sports and recreational party for activities. Additionally, the department will hold an agricultural exhibition during the same day containing gardens produce in schools.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THERE is always inequity in life — John F. Kennedy, US president.

Special Report

The truth will out

Stasi secret files found

EAST BERLIN, (AP): Erich Mielke ran his secret empire from a musty, dimly lit office in a huge complex of buildings on the outskirts of East Berlin.

When he was forced to give up his post as chief of the East German secret police, he left behind an empty safe, a newspaper shredder, and a poorly rendered painting of the Berlin Wall.

He left an open jar of fruit juice in the refrigerator, a box of uniforms from the communist youth group in a closet, and a personal switchboard connecting him to his security chiefs around the world.

As almost every East German knows, Mielke also left behind a vast army of secret police and 6 million clandestine files, a seemingly bottomless well of information ranging from the mundane to the potentially explosive.

His organization no longer exists. Mielke, 82, is hospitalized and reported suffering from senility. The new government is trying to decide what to do with the employees, the buildings and the millions of files.

Information

To many East Germans, the files are a Pandora's Box. To Western intelligence agencies, they are a potential gold mine of information about the former government's espionage activities abroad, and its reputed role in training or harbouring international terrorists.

"They are very important," said George Carver, a former CIA station chief in Bonn, West Germany. "The East Germans ran a very efficient police state and had one of the best intelligence services in the world," he said in a recent telephone interview.

East German authorities in the past two weeks arrested several reputed members of West Germany's left Red Army Faction, which has been blamed for a string of killings and bombings during the past two decades.

All had been among the most wanted people in West German history, and all had been living quietly in East Germany apparently with the knowledge and help of the former secret police.

One, Susanne Albrecht, said she had been granted asylum by the secret police and furnished with a new identity.

Another, Inge Viett, 46, was known to be living in East Germany as far back as 1986.

"The East Germans were used to train security services around the world," said Carver. "They were very involved in allowing terrorists to stay in East Germany. If that is with foundation, it should be made public."

Interior Minister Peter-Michael Diestel of East Germany, who oversees police functions in East Germany, said he would "clear up as much as possible this diabolical connection between the Ministry for State Security and the terror scene."

But Diestel has come under fire for employing more than 2,000 members of the former secret police, known as the Stasi.

Stasi employees still work at the vast main headquarters in Berlin, and many are in the police department.

"They are still around and I do not know why. I see the same people drinking in the same bars," said East Berliner Helmut Frankan, 66, who said his restaurant was closed by the secret police because too many young people frequented it.

Thousands of others are unemployed and drawing jobless benefits or pensions.

Many former East German agents were believed to have been recruited both by Soviet and Western intelligence agencies after the pro-democracy revolt.

Hans Gert Lange, a spokesman for West German counter-intelligence agency, said there was a sharp rise in defections from East Germany after the old hard-line regime was thrown out last autumn. "A lot, I would say," he said.

About 85,000 people were employed by the Stasi, from file clerks to surveillance experts, and other 109,000 — ranging from teachers to travel agents — had informal secret police duties.

After the former government of hardliner Erich Honecker was toppled last autumn, a caretaker communist government appointed a committee and a team of government officials to disband the Stasi and catalogue the files and its vast properties.

After the current government was elected, that committee was replaced by a new one that is to recommend to the government how to finally dismantle the once-fearsome apparatus and, perhaps most importantly, what to do with the closely guarded files.

Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere had denied similar accusations that he was secret police informant.

Albrecht Daur, a former member of the Citizens' Committee, said virtually all 400 Parliament members have looked at their Stasi files.

Many East Germans have intense hatred for the sprawling network that followed, bugged, intimidated, interrogated and often imprisoned dissidents.

A Stasi file from last year on an East German environmental group includes detailed lists of meetings, members and even the name of the pastor of the church where it met.

It refers to the group's "hostile and negative activities."

Ex-CIA man Carver said East Germany should conduct a case-by-case analysis of the Stasi files and remove any elected official who was found to have collaborated.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1579 — Sir Francis Drake proclaims England's sovereignty over New Albion (California).

1665 — Spanish are defeated by Portuguese and British at Montes Claros, and further victory at Villa Viciosa secures Portuguese independence.

1698 — Peter the Great's foreign mercenaries scatter the Strelitz rebels in Moscow.

1701 — Sweden's King Charles XII relieves Riga from Russian occupation and subsequently invades Courland and Poland.

1811 — National Council meets in Paris to settle dispute between Napoleon Bonaparte and Pope Pius VII.

1843 — Maoris revolt against British in New Zealand.

1848 — Austrian troops under Prince Windischgratz suppress Czech revolt in Prague.

1947 — Burmese constituent assembly resolves for independent republic of Burma.

1958 — Announcement is made of Imre Nagy's execution after secret trial in Hungary.

1967 — China announces it has exploded its first hydrogen bomb.

1969 — Communist summit conference in Moscow ends with majority support of public document that omits any criticism of China.

1971 — United States and Japan sign agreement to restore island of Okinawa to Japan.

1973 — US Skylab 1 astronauts go into 24th day in space, breaking record established by Soviet cosmonauts.

1987 — Leftist guerrillas ambush two army trucks in southern Colombia jungle, killing 32 soldiers and wounding 24.

1989 — Israeli soldiers wound eight Arabs in scattered clashes during Palestinian general strike called to protest Israel's Middle East peace plan.

NSF win moves debate into streets

Traditional split heightened

Chronology of events

BUCHAREST, (AP): The violence that marked Romania's overthrow of Nicolae Ceausescu always seems ready to explode — a product of the bloodiest communist rule in Eastern Europe and centuries of ethnic and political strife.

The overwhelming victory of president-elect Ion Iliescu and his National Salvation Front in May, five months after Ceausescu's ouster, only heightened the traditional divisions in society.

Iliescu's triumph left the opposition with little power to exert political pressure on him, and debate moved into the streets.

The press, with several exceptions, offers little constructive criticism, inflaming rather than calming passions.

Destroyed

"We destroyed the political power of communism. But the social, economic and administrative structures are in their place, and that is the second phase of the revolution," Stelian Tanase, editor of the weekly "22," said in an interview.

Predicting chaos in the next six months as the economy deteriorates and workers start to strike, Tanase said the Salvation Front will gradually lose power.

For now, however, Iliescu can rely on the communist structures he inherited virtually intact to enforce his will.

He summoned tens of thousands of supporters into the streets Thursday. The tactic only added to Wednesday's violent clashes between anti-government demonstrators and security forces, in which at least five people died.

Iliescu's backers clubbed opponents to the ground, ransacked opposition party offices and demanded a ban on the independent newspaper Romania Libera.

Their actions feed on fear of a changing future and ignorance of democratic institutions bred by five decades of communist or fascist rule.

By casting himself as the guardian of workers and their interests, Iliescu has limited his ability to manoeuvre for change.

Iliescu is "prisoner of the apparatus ... of the engine on which he jumped," said Thomas Kleininger, vice-chairman of a leading intellectual group, the Group for Social Democracy in a May interview.

"He could have the best intentions, but he can't do what he wants," Kleininger said of Iliescu.

Unique

"The almost unique chance to take now the road of genuine democracy and join in the flow of European values has been missed, at least for a while, with amazing carelessness," the daily Romania Libera wrote Iliescu's May 20 election.

The failure to dismantle communist structures in Romania leaves in place the terror bred by one of the most brutal instruments of repression in Eastern Europe.

US not keen to discard dogma

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): As public debate on a new role for Nato intensifies in the United States, a senior US official said the Bush administration is not keen to abandon a fundamental Nato doctrine — the first use of nuclear weapons.

"There's no great impetus on the inside (of the administration) to change the doctrine," the official told Reuters this week in an interview. "But ... I can't tell you categorically it will never happen," he added.

For 25 years, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation has adhered to the doctrine of flexible response by which the alliance would react to Warsaw Pact aggression by first using conventional forces, then tactical nuclear arms and finally strategic arms.

Deteriorating

But now, with the pact deteriorating and democracies emerging in the communist bloc, Nato has declared its intention to review its military strategy and emphasise a political role over a military one.

A senior US official said it would be inconceivable that the 16 Nato allies would not raise the nuclear first-strike issue during an overall review.

"As circumstances change (in Europe) your need to resort to an early use of nuclear weapons may also undergo some change," he said. But he worried that renouncing the first-use policy might "make the environment safe for conventional war."

Democratic Senator Joseph Biden told Secretary of State James Baker during a meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"I think we should revise Nato's strategy to take into account the changing conventional balance resulting from the withdrawal of most or all Soviet forces in Eastern Europe."

He said abandonment of the first use of nuclear weapons policy would also be a way to keep a unified Germany in Nato and make the Soviet Union more comfortable about a United Germany being part of the Western alliance.

"Nato's strategic option of first use of nuclear weapons has been based on the perception of a Soviet conventional superiority," Biden said. "And

(AP): Here is a chronology of events in Romania since the communists took power after World War II.

1947 — Communists backed by Soviet forces who invaded at the close of the war take power in a virtual coup, forcing abdication of King Michael. Tens of thousands of people die in a bloody repression.

1965 — Communist leader Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej dies. Nicolae Ceausescu takes over.

1968 — Ceausescu denounces Soviet-led crackdown against reform in Czechoslovakia. His foreign policy moves independent of Moscow put him on good terms with the West despite repressive measures at home.

1977 — Troops break up strike by 30,000 coal miners, arrest leaders.

Nov 1987 — Forces break up pro-reform rally in Brasov by 10,000 people, rally leaders arrested and disappear.

Dec 17, 1989 — Security forces open fire on protesters in Timisoara, triggering nationwide protests that reach Bucharest Dec 21.

Dec 22 — Ceausescu and his wife Elena, flee capital after anti-

government protesters take over streets and get army on their side. The National Salvation Front, a group uniting anti-Ceausescu communists, dissidents and intellectuals, takes control of TV station. The army fights Ceausescu's security forces.

Dec 25 — Committee announces it has tried, convicted and executed Ceausescu and his wife for crimes including genocide and destruction of the national economy.

Dec 26 — Ion Iliescu, an ex-member of the Ceausescu regime and a leader of the revolution, is named chairman of council of National Salvation Committee. Fighting subsides.

Jan 12 — Iliescu says the Communist Party is outlawed, but government retracts the ban a week later.

Feb 11 — The government proposes creation of interim "mini-Parliament" with veto power over the ruling council until elections May 20. It meets for the first time Feb 9.

Feb 19 — Anti-communist demonstrators saying country still led by holdovers of the Ceausescu regime temporarily seize government headquarters.

Mar 2 — Twenty-one officers of Securitate go on trial in Timisoara, death toll there said to be 94 rather than up to 4,000 as rumoured during the revolution.

Mar 13 — Provincial Parliament rules out election candidacies by any members of Ceausescu's old guard.

Mar 15 — Iliescu, at first post-revolutionary news conference, does not repudiate market economy.

April 22 — Anti-communist demonstration starts in Bucharest's University Square.

May 20 — Front and Iliescu win overwhelming victory in elections tainted by charges of violence and unfair media advantage being used against the opposition.

June 13 — Police break up the anti-communist demonstration at University Square, beating some protesters. Rioting erupts and police open fire. At least four people are killed.

June 14 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

June 15 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

June 16 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

June 17 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

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June 22 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

June 23 — More clashes reported. Tens of thousands of workers turn out in support of the government, some beating members of the opposition and ransacking opposition parties' offices.

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Algeria

Journalism to be revamped

ALGIERS, (Reuters): Spurred on by new freedom, Algerian journalists are scrambling to set up independent newspapers in what could revolutionise a press long muzzled by a one-party system.

Maamar Farah, until recently editor of Algeria's biggest selling daily, is one of dozens of journalists leaving the state press to set up their own dailies and magazines, the first since independence from France in 1962.

He could have kept a comfortable job and a chauffeured car within the state-owned media.

But when the government offered to help journalists with the new experiment as part of a emerging multi-party democracy — Algeria held elections for municipal and provincial councils this week in the first multi-party poll since independence — Farah saw an opportunity he could not refuse.

Dream

It is the dream of every journalist to found his own newspaper. If I had passed up the chance I would always have regretted it," said Farah, 40, formerly of the daily Horizons.

The journalists' success could make the press — long controlled under the one-party rule of the National Liberation Front (FLN) — the freest and most diverse in the Arab world outside Lebanon.

Journalists are buzzing with ideas for dailies in Arabic and French and weeklies on sports, the economy and topics of particular concern to women. There are six proposed new dailies and six planned weekly and five monthly magazines.

"There can be no real democracy without an independent press," said Abed Charef of the afternoon daily El-Messa, who recently launched an experimental issue of a planned independent Arabic morning daily called El-Khabar (the news).

Farah and four colleagues posted up a zero issue of a new French-language afternoon daily, Le Soir, in his living room and distributed it to potential advertisers last month.

Monopoly

A new information law adopted by Parliament in March ends the state monopoly of the media and the prime minister's office has since been flooded with projects for privately-owned newspapers, magazines and even television and radio stations.

Five newly legal opposition parties from communists to Islamic fundamentalists already publish newspapers in three languages — French, Arabic and Berber, the original non-Arab language of North Africa.

Much to the consternation of journalists and the opposition, the government last month handed over the country's two morning dailies — El-Moudjahid in French and El Chabab in Arabic — to the FLN.

The afternoon dailies Horizons and El-Messa, left in state hands, closely follow the government line.

But a cabinet decision also gave journalists the option of leaving the public sector to join the independent or party press with full salary for three years.

The money can be collected in a lump sum. Journalists are using it as capital to start their own ventures.

Spearheaded

A bi-weekly youth tabloid, Jeune Independent, spearheaded the drive in April. Kamel Belkacem, former editor of the liberal weekly Algerie Actualite, plans both a commercial television station and a new tabloid weekly.

A group of 35 journalists from El-Moudjahid and the FLN weekly revolution Africaine plan a morning daily in French.

Farah, Charef and the others are busy securing bank loans and meeting lawyers to form publishing companies. The state has promised office space and backing for an import loan.

Under reforms liberalising Algeria's socialist economy, media advertising and distribution are no longer state monopolies and the new papers hope to tap a market not fully exploited by the former advertising monopoly Anep.

Still the ventures are unlikely to start as big money earners and journalists confess some anxiety. Presses are still in state hands, and the printing prices they charge are prohibitively high, the journalists say.

"It will be tough. But if there was not a minimum of risk the project would not be worth undertaking," said Omar Belhouche of El-Moudjahid, one of those behind the proposed new French-language daily.

"We've already passed the middle of the river. The general consensus is that we should reach a final agreement as soon as possible. The time has come, the conditions are ripe. I can't say exactly when, but very soon we shall witness the establishment of the Supreme National Council of Caribbia, consisting of all four parties." — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev in China to brief the government on the US-Soviet summit.

"The greatest pressure Saturday night will not be on George Foreman. It will be on Mike Tyson. He's lost. Not only did he lose, he was knocked out decisively. People tease him because he was looking for his mouthpiece, only because no one prepared him for a knockout. He's got to make a good impression, because he's been rude, too. That's a lot of pressure on Mike Tyson." — Foreman on the Tyson-Tillman bout.

"If he had a chance to start all over and start from the bottom again, he couldn't built himself up to the same Mike Tyson. Now he starts back on top. When you start on top, there's only one direction, you can go and that's down. If he had a chance to take off awhile, a year or 13 months, he could become more devastating." — George Foreman suggesting Tyson should start his comeback by fighting "small" opponents.

"For some time, we've urged a peaceful resolution of this confrontation, one that will result in dialogue, negotiation if you will, and lifting of this economic blockade against Lithuania. And so I hope that what we saw yesterday is a first step in a dialogue that will lead to the self-determination that we strongly support. In any event I think it was good news. I don't want to overstate it, but I was very, very pleased to see this occur in the wake of ... what I think was a successful summit meeting." — George Bush on Gorbachev's meeting with Baltic leaders.

"We try very hard to make our recorded voices sound human. We auditioned 200 applicants before we found a woman who could give us the perfect, 'All our lines are busy, please do not hang up'." — Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

"I telephoned his wife at home. She gave me his direct line at work, 892-6550.

My problem was far from solved. When I dialled his extension I got the recorded voice of Dumphies. "This is Harcourt Dumphies. I am sorry I am not at my desk right now. If you wish to leave a message, you may do so at the sound of the beep, and I will get back

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Non-Kuwaiti share market picks up

3 indices dip

THE Alshail index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 40.41 points with a decrease of 0.12 points — 0.30 per cent — from last week's average.

The Alshail Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 54.99 points with an increase of 1.22 points — 2.27 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshail weekly market review.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 30.36 million shares at a daily average of 6.07 million shares with a decrease of 48 per cent from previous week's daily average of 11.07 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 6.035 million shares at a daily average of 1.207 million shares with an increase of 205 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.396 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD10.55 million at a daily average of KD2.11 million, a decrease of 54 per cent from last week's daily average of KD4.54 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.334 million at a daily average of KD0.067 million, an increase of 272 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.018 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the Banking Sector came first at 32 per cent of total trading against 59 per cent last week. The National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 49 per cent, followed by Kuwait Finance House at 24 per cent and Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait at 10 per cent.

The Investment Sector came second at 27 per cent in which Kuwait Investment Projects Company had the lead at 47 per cent followed by Coast Investment & Development Company at 32 per cent and International Financial Advisers Company at 11 per cent.

The Food Sector came third at 11 per cent in which United Fisheries of Kuwait Company had the lead at 79 per cent, followed by Livestock Transport & Trading Company at 21 per cent.

As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 80 per cent, followed by Sharjah Cement & Industrial Development Company and Umm Al-Qaiwain Cement Industries Company at 9 per cent each, and Arabian General Investment Company (Shua'a) at 2 per cent.

The market for Kuwaiti shares slowed down after an active week. This was reflected on all three indices. On the contrary non-Kuwaiti shares market showed signs of activity after a long period of slow down. The dealers showed a shift in their concentration from the traditionally traded sectors which happens from time to time and we expect it to be temporary.

We expected last week for the market to slow down as there was no justification for the recent active trading because it has no relation with the performance of the traded companies.

We expect that further fluctuations would take place during the rest of this month and next month for the same reasons which caused the market movements during the last week. We do not expect that the mid-year financial data which will be issued by the traded companies will have an effect on the market before August of this year and its influence will be in both directions.

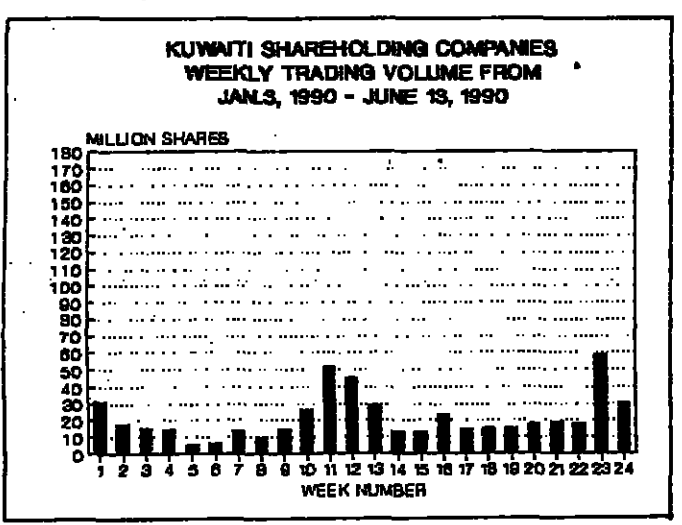
Kuwait shareholding companies index			
	Wed. 13/06/90	Wed. 06/06/90	Change
Banking Sector			
The National Bk	131.84	133.16	-1.32
The Gulf Bk	30.83	31.31	-0.47
The Comm. Bk	23.51	23.97	-0.46
Al Ahli Bk	31.25	31.78	-0.53
Bk of Kt & ME	31.13	31.63	-0.50
Kuwait R. Est. Bk	28.89	29.35	-0.46
Burgan Bk	26.88	26.88	—
Kt Finance House	84.42	85.32	-0.90
Sector Index	50.19	50.78	-0.59
Inv. Sector			
Kuwait Inv. Co.	13.22	13.22	—
Kt. Int. Inv. Co.	8.59	8.59	—
IFA	33.97	26.25	7.72
Comm. Facilities	163.35	163.35	—
National Inv.	58.82	53.92	4.90
Kt. Inv. Proj.	84.27	85.39	-1.12

Coast Inv. & Dev.	94.12	90.59	3.53
Sector Index	35.10	34.07	1.03
Ins. Sector			
Kt. Ins. Co.	32.29	32.29	—
Gulf Ins. Co.	23.08	23.08	—
Al Ahleia Ins.	53.38	53.38	—
Warba Ins. Co.	48.20	49.14	-0.95
Sector Index	34.14	34.19	-0.05
Real Est. Sec.			
Kt. Real Est.	11.22	11.09	0.13
Utd. Realty	5.10	5.10	—
Nat. Real Est.	39.42	39.42	—
Pearl of Kt.	65.08	65.08	—
Sector Index	15.04	15.01	0.03
Ind. Sector			
Kt. Cmt. Co.	13.77	13.50	0.27
Ref. Ind.	82.36	81.26	1.10
Gulf Cables	113.13	113.13	—
Kt. Pharm.	53.33	53.33	—
Sector Index	31.19	30.90	0.28
Services Sector			
Kt. Cmptr. Co.	140.40	133.92	6.48
Kt. Cinema Co.	9.13	7.80	1.33
Pub. W'house Co.	52.53	51.52	1.01
Kt. Comm. M. Co.	36.37	36.37	—
M. Tele. Syst.	375.00	370.00	5.00
Sector Index	60.66	59.06	1.60
Food Sector			
L. Trad. & Transp.	24.82	24.41	0.41
Utd Fisheries	12.61	11.05	1.56
Kt. Utd Poultry	110.01	110.01	—
Kt. Food Co.	71.26	71.26	—
Sector Index	37.87	37.27	0.69
Overall Index	40.41	40.33	-0.12

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index			
	Wed. 13/06/90	Wed. 06/06/90	Change
First G. Bk.	263.16	263.16	—
Bah. Intl. Bk.	84.14	84.14	—
Bah. M.E. Bk.	84.47	84.47	—
A. Gen. Inv. (Shua'a)	45.45	45.45	—
Umm Al Q. Cmt.	16.50	15.75	0.75
Sharjah Cement*	24.77	20.01	4.75
G. Med. Projs.	13.13	13.13	—
Total Index	54.99	53.76	1.22

—Base period 31/12/1983.

—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.



JAL gets approval to fly to Washington

JAPAN AIRLINES has been given approval to fly to Washington DC three times a week from October this year.

The Japanese Ministry of Transport announced this and other new trans-Pacific route awards made after agreement on a new route package agreed between the USA and Japan IB aviation talks last November.

In addition to Washington, JAL has two extra flights per week on Tokyo-Chicago route, which thus will become a daily service.

Japan Airlines was also given gateway rights to Maui Island via Honolulu in Hawaii and Boston (Massachusetts), via Washington.

Japan Air system received approval for a twice weekly service Tokyo-Honolulu which they say they will inaugurate in June 1991.

Japan Airlines also received approval to operate four freighter flights to Chicago, so did Nippon Air Cargo, who also received for 3 weekly flights to Los Angeles.

The Ministry of Transportation also approved a new daily domestic flight Haneda airport-Hiroshima for Japan Airlines, to be inaugurated from July this year.

Japan Airlines has established the Japan Airlines Foundation in April, the first foundation of its kind to be established by an airline in Japan to improve life through air travel.

Funds of \$13.3 million have been contributed to the new foundation from Japan Airlines to help conduct its activities.

The foundation will take over several projects currently handled by departments in the airlines, including the Japan summer scholarship programme which brings university students from Pacific Rim countries to Japan in July and August, and the world-wide children's Haiku contest which is bringing together children Haiku for exhibition at Expo 90 in Osaka.

Riyal deposit rates ease

NICOSIA, June 16. (Reuters): Rates on the Saudi riyal deposit market eased in line with dollar interest rates today, but the market was generally quiet, dealers said.

Both spot/next and one week were being quoted at eight 7-5/8 per cent. One and three months were quoted at 8-1/16 7-15/16, six months at 8-3/16 8-1/16, and one year at 8-5/16, 8-3/16.

The spot riyal was quoted at 3.7500/04 to the dollar.

Meanwhile, little activity was seen on a quiet, featureless Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market today, dealers said.

Some business was seen in short dates, and overnight started the day offered at eight per cent, but later dealt at seven, while tomorrow/next dealt at 7-3/4. The market in fixed rates was inactive, they said, and rates remained basically unchanged.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.29248/58 to the dollar, unchanged from Thursday.

G-7 meeting in September

TOKYO, June 16. A private-sector international forum on the world economy will be created in September by seven major industrial nations (G-7), a financial source said yesterday, reports Kyodo.

The G-7 conference will consist of former finance ministers and other top financial experts from the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada, who engineered the 1985 Plaza agreement intended to drive down the value of the US dollar.

Former Japanese prime minister and finance minister Noboru Takeshita and former chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, Paul Volcker, have been tentatively named as its honorary chairmen.

Ministers to meet on July 25

Opec to defend \$18

US crude prices dip



Hisham Nazer

NICOSIA, June 16. (Agencies): United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba said yesterday that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) would act to defend its minimum reference price of \$18 a barrel.

Oteiba made the announcement after meeting Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer to discuss the fall in oil prices, the Saudi Press Agency SPA said.

Oteiba, who last week also met Opec president Sadek Bousenna of Algeria, said oil prices were vitally important to all 13 Opec members.

"The commitment to the \$18 per barrel as a minimum price is firm and should not be shaken," the agency, received in Cyprus, quoted Oteiba as saying.

Oteiba said the Opec ministers will continue to meet in an ordinary meeting in Geneva on July 25.

Bousenna last week ruled out an emergency meeting, saying he was sure some overproducers would now behave better and respect the May 3 pact which cut the group's output by six per cent. Oil prices fell by around 30 per cent this year because of a glut.

Oteiba said the United Arab Emirates was taking the same position as Saudi Arabia in "fully adhering" to production levels agreed at last month's meeting, which ruled a cut of 1.445 million barrels a day from May to July.

Industry sources said world oil markets were not impressed. Prices fell further because only Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest exporter, was honouring its promise to slash production by around 400,000 barrels a day.

Oteiba recently renewed his vow to cut the United Arab Emirates output by 200,000 barrels a day to 1.9 million.

Meanwhile, weighed down by a pervasive glut of supplies worldwide, US crude oil prices fell yesterday to their lowest level in 18 months, while gasoline gained support from refinery-output problems to rise by nearly 5 cents a gallon on the week.

The benchmark West Texas

intermediate crude for July delivery fell 51 cents to end the day on the New York Mercantile Exchange at \$16.62 a barrel, 16 cents less than a week ago.

The exchange said the \$16.62 closing price was the Merc's lowest for crude since Dec 23, 1988. Trading volume was a moderate \$5.800 contracts.

Sun Co., of Radnor, Pa., and Marathon Oil Co., the Findlay, Ohio unit of USX Corp., also cut their posted price for crude at the wellhead by 75 cents to \$15.50 a barrel for WTI, the lowest price for the standard crude since Dec 27, 1988.

July delivery gasoline, however, climbed another 1.39 cents to 61.51 cents a gallon, 4.92 cents higher than last Friday's Merc close.

There is so much crude oil world-wide in storage tanks and onboard tankers "that nobody wants it," said Kevin Breslin, a trader with United Energy Inc. in New York.

Crude prices declined in spite of the upward pull exerted by the gasoline market, which continued to react to problems with refineries and to tightness in regional markets.

Breslin said the California market was sufficiently tight so that three cargoes of gasoline were diverted there from the US gulf coast.

Total purchase price will exceed \$3b

Orix to buy up to 74 planes

TOKYO, June 16. (AP): Orix Corp., a Tokyo-based finance company, announced yesterday that it has obtained rights to acquire up to 74 aircraft from Airbus Industrie.

Orix spokesman Masayasu Fukazawa said the company won the rights to purchase 24 A320-200 planes as well as options to purchase an additional 50 all for delivery by the year 2000, from Braniff Inc.

The total purchase price will exceed \$3 billion if all the options are exercised, thus making Orix Japan's largest aircraft-leasing company, he said.

Orix paid \$62 million to Braniff, a US airline that filed for protection from bankruptcy last year and owes Airbus Industrie \$14.2 million. Most of the Orix payment will be used to cover the deposit to Airbus, Fukazawa said.

The Japanese finance company won the rights at an auction at Federal Bankruptcy Court in Orlando, Florida, he said.

"By buying the rights given several years ago instead of directly purchasing the planes from Airbus, we can obtain planes much earlier at lower cost," he said.

It normally takes 5-6 years before a manufacturer delivers planes to a purchaser, said Fukazawa.

"Because we wanted to make aircraft available next spring, Braniff's contract, under which deliveries are supposed to start exactly when we wanted it, seemed perfect," he said.

Because Braniff's contract with Airbus was made when the A320-200 was still under development, its purchase price was lower, Fukazawa said. He declined to provide the terms of the Braniff-Airbus contract.

For further information please refer Ashok Gud and John Cartwright, ANZ Merchant Bank Ltd, P.O. Box 132, 3 Cathedral Street, London SE1 9AN, Fax 071-403-8782, Telex 886552 ANZMB G, Tel. 071-378 2848 or V.N. Vinod Al Naayem International, Kuwait Trading Co., P.O. Box 243, Safat 13003, Kuwait, Fax 2436636, Tel. 2409390 - 2409391.

Second India Investment Fund opens

ANZ Grindlays' offering of the \$20 million second India Investment Fund has already received a good response from investors. Talking to our reporter today, Roger Cottrell, who has been managing ANZ Grindlays' Fund from Delhi since 1987, said "We have received a most encouraging response with commitments to over \$8 million of the fund. Apart from investment by leading NRIs from all parts of the Gulf, we have sizeable commitments from a leading Japanese insurance company and from a London based institution, who see India as a most interesting emerging market."

ANZ Grindlays has already established a creditable track record in management of the first fund, which to the end of December 1989 had achieved pre-tax growth of 48 per cent. A unique feature of the second fund is the fact that it will have no capital gains tax liability in India.

This is possible due to a recent double tax treaty between India and Netherlands. Under this treaty, dividend income will suffer only 15 per cent tax instead of the usual 25 per cent. Although Dutch capital gains tax is normally levied at rates between

35 per cent and 40 per cent the managers have obtained a ruling from the authorities, the effect of which is that no tax at all will be payable on 80 per cent of revenue. As a result the managers anticipate a tax rate on the second fund of approximately half the 20 per cent rate normally suffered by NRIs.

Explaining the fund's investment philosophy of targeting new issues and those of expanding companies, Roger Cottrell said, "We believe that this is the sector of the market offering exceptional investment returns providing investors can obtain professional, on the spot investigation of the opportunities. We aim to provide this in the management of the second fund." The fund is now open for subscription and the earliest closing date is July 10, 1990.

For further information please refer Ashok Gud and John Cartwright, ANZ Merchant Bank Ltd, P.O. Box 132, 3 Cathedral Street, London SE1 9AN, Fax 071-403-8782, Telex 886552 ANZMB G, Tel. 071-378 2848 or V.N. Vinod Al Naayem International, Kuwait Trading Co., P.O. Box 243, Safat 13003, Kuwait, Fax 2436636, Tel. 2409390 - 2409391.

Trail blazing into the big league of plastics...

UNIPLAS MULTIPLUS

- India's fastest growing plastics processing company with a 14-fold turnover increase in just three years — a record unparalleled in the industry.
- Trebling capacity from 12400 tpa to 38400 tpa by Sept. 1990, of which 24000 tpa already operational.
- Full conversion in 12 months in two stages, at an average price of Rs. 22.5 per share as against Ex-Rights price of Rs. 47.75.
- Excellent dividend record — 16%, 20% and 25% during the last three years.
- Listing at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta Stock Exchanges.

**As at Delhi Stock Exchange on May 10th, 1990*

with turnover poised to cross Rs. 50 crores by June '90 and Rs. 120 crores next year.

Public Issue of 256645 14% Fully Convertible Debentures of Rs. 225/- each for cash, of which 102650 debentures aggregating Rs. 2.31 crores has been reserved for preferential allotment to NRIs.

Public Issue open for NRI — on 6th June 1990

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
(Figures in Lakhs)

	As at	As at
Turnover	30,688	30,689
Gross Profit	1353	2625
Depreciation	89	178
Profit before Tax	12	22
Net Profit	67	134
Dividend	20%	25%

Bankers for Middle East
Bank of Baroda
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank

For further information
Please call Mr Bakshi Kuldip Singh on Tel: 2646808

Uniplas INDIA LIMITED
Uniplas House, 5, Community Centre, Goregaon East, Vikas Nagar, New Delhi-110 057

IDB keen to finance projects

MANAMA, June 16. (Kuna): Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank is keen on financing projects in the less developed member states and in particular the agricultural projects, said Dr Ahmed Mohammed Ali, the president of the Islamic Development Bank, in a press statement published here today.

The IDB is planning to increase its financial resources so as to meet the increasing requirements of the member states, he added.

"We are keen on co-operation with the international financial organisations and institutions," he added.

He noted that the IDB, which has a capital of two billion Islamic dinars, has been successfully extending services and facilities to its member states so as to enable them implement development projects.

In the last decade the IDB contributed to implementation of three billion Islamic dinar worth development projects in the member states, he said.

Dr Ali said the IDB is keen on enhancing commercial exchange among the Islamic countries.

ABC share issue oversubscribed

BAHRAIN, June 16. (Reuters): Arab Banking Corp. B.S.C. (ABC) said today its \$350 million share offering, the biggest ever held in the Middle East, had been 14.2 per cent oversubscribed, mainly by Arab investors.

ABC president Abdullah Saudi told reporters about 85 per cent of the bank's new issue of 25 million shares had been privately placed with firms and individuals in the Arab world.

Ten per cent of the shares, priced at \$14 each, were placed with investors outside the region while just under six per cent were sold to the public on the Bahrain market. The offering began three weeks ago.

"This demonstrates one important thing — that there is liquidity and there is good appetite for investment, especially in the Arab world," Saudi said.

The share offering, which raised ABC's paid-in capital by one third to \$1 billion, was the first by an Arab institution

available to foreign investors. Saudi said once the new shares were allotted the bank, which was previously owned equally by the governments of Abu Dhabi, Libya and Kuwait, would have 3,212 individual and 52 corporate shareholders.

Trading of ABC shares would begin on the Bahrain and Paris Stock Exchanges within 30 days and subsequently on Seaq International in London, he said.

Saudi did not give a breakdown of the new investors but a spokesman for the Riyadh-based Consulting Centre for Finance and Investment, lead manager for the offering in the Arab world, told Reuters 1,000 were from Saudi Arabia alone.

Saudi said 1,074 share applications had come from Gulf nationals buying shares on the Bahrain market, with half of those from investors who took a minimum allocation of 50 shares.

This showed small investors were interested in buying shares,

especially as a government share flotation was going on at the same time, he added. Bahrain sold its entire 40 per cent stake in the Bahrain Hotels Company for \$17.3 million.

ABC's \$14 share price was below its book value which stood at \$15.33 at end-1989. The par value is \$10.

Saudi said part of the money from the new share issue would be used to finance a new ABC subsidiary in Europe which would give the bank a foothold there after European Economic Community markets unify in 1992.

The subsidiary, with a paid-in capital of \$250 million, would be set up by the end of 1990, he said. ABC, with total assets of \$21.73 billion at the end of 1989, transferred its entire 1989 net profit of \$132 million to loan loss provisions.

Last September, it became the first Arab bank to receive an international credit rating for its paper.

Pollution killing people, says East Europe

DUBLIN, June 16. (Reuters): Environment ministers from Central and Eastern Europe today painted a grim picture of their horrific pollution that was killing their people and destroying cities, rivers and seas.

"They have been extremely frank and they say it is dreadful," British Junior Environment Minister David Trippier said during a meeting of ministers from across Europe on how to tackle the ecological mess left by decades of communist-led industrialisation.

Czechoslovak Minister Josef Vavrousek told reporters life expectancy in his country was between five and seven years below rates in Western Europe and years below rates in heavily industrialised northwest Bohemia.

He called Czechoslovakia's air pollu-

tion the worst in the world, with levels of sulphur dioxide in Prague and Bohemia sometimes 20 times above the country's own norms.

Irish Environment Minister Padraig Flynn quoted his Polish counterpart Bronislaw Kaminski as telling the meeting that public health in his country was at "serious risk" and Soviet Minister Nikolai Vorontsov as speaking of serious pollution caused by "wild use" of industry.

"They made no secret that a horrendous environmental situation exists," Flynn told a news conference.

During morning talks attention also focused on the 22 Soviet-built nuclear reactors dotted across Eastern Europe similar to the Chernobyl plant that exploded in 1986.

"Some of these are old, some are

obsolete and some are positively dangerous," he said.

West German Environment Minister Klaus Toepfer said it was vital that a comprehensive study of their safety be carried out and those that were found unsafe shut down or modernised.

US stocks dodged trouble in first half

NEW YORK, June 16, (AP): Approaching the midway point of 1990, Wall Street analysts see many blessings to count in the performance of the stock and bond markets so far this year.

Stocks have reached record highs in recent weeks, and bond prices have also rallied as interest rates declined.

Worries about inflation have ebbed as well. But a slowdown in the pace of economic growth doesn't appear, in the eyes of many forecasters, to have brought business to the brink of any severe, economy-wide recession.

Along with whatever enthusiasm those developments may have engendered, many market commentators and predictions these days express a generous measure of relief.

Since new year's, most observers agree, the markets have tipped with remarkable agility through a minefield of potentially serious hazards.

Already fading into memory from the early weeks of the year are a severe break in Japanese stock prices — some of the losses from which have recently been recouped — and the failure of Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc., the titan of the junk-bond market.

More recently, investors have had to grapple with worries about credit problems facing a diverse list of borrowers and lenders ranging from developer Donald Trump to the money-market mutual funds.

Even the much-discussed threat of a "credit crunch" appears to have been staved off, for the time being at least.

Whatever happens during the summer and beyond, many analysts say, the Federal Reserve has kept some ammunition in reserve to use against any signs of developing economic trouble.

So far, they note, the Fed has held off on any moves to a more stimulative credit policy as growth has weakened.

"The economy is slowing, but a recession can probably be avoided," said Jack Lavery at Merrill Lynch.

"We believe the data to be reported during the weeks ahead will show economic activity to be weak enough and inflation tame enough to spark another Fed easing within the next month."

Hopes of that sort helped inspire a solid advance in the stock market during the past week. The Dow Jones Average of 30 industrial stocks climbed 73.51 points to 2,935.89, surpassing yesterday its previous closing peak of 2,935.19 reached on June 4.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index gained 1.81 to 197.36; the Nasdaq Composite index for the over-the-counter market rose 6.68 to 467.55, and the American Stock Exchange Market Value index was up 2.84 at 364.03.

Iran devalues currency for many imports

NICOSIA, June 16, (Reuters): Iran moved closer to a free market rate for its overvalued currency today, raising sharply the cost of many imports.

The state-owned Bank Mellat said banks were selling dollars to importers for 1,270 rials — much nearer black market prices than the previous importers' rate of 800 rials to the dollar.

"The bank is to release the rate daily in accordance with the fluctuation of the market. This specific scheme is to be used by importers for some 400 items of selected goods," said a bank statement carried by the official news agency Irna.

The official rate of the rial, used mainly to import necessities like food and medicines, remains unchanged at 70 rials to the dollar. The government says it has no plans to devalue that rate, which would strike at the family budgets of the poor.

Devaluation of the importers' rate is part of a central bank campaign to break the unofficial foreign exchange market in Tehran and other cities, to which the government in the past turned a blind eye. The rial is also traded in the Gulf, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan and London.

Moneychangers said the black market rate for the dollar fell last week on anticipation of today's announcement but rose again to 1,350 — a premium of 80 rials over the bank rate.

The central bank said on Tuesday it had issued 115 licences to money changers and banned foreign currency dealings by unauthorised individuals.

But Ali Pakpour, a London-based moneychanger, told Reuters: "There are still a lot of people who will obtain their dollars on the quiet."

Donald Trump's financial cliffhanger ends badly

Stock market gets back on the winning track

NEW YORK, June 16, (UPI): Donald Trump's week-long financial cliffhanger ended badly yesterday as the flamboyant developer announced he was unable to meet a deadline for payments on bonds of one of his three casinos in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The longer-range consequences of the payment failure are unclear, but it now seems evident that Trump's salad days, when the brash real estate tycoon commanded millions on the strength of his signature, have come to an end.

His Trump organization issued a terse statement on Friday saying that about \$30 million in principal and interest payments on high-interest "junk" mortgage bonds of his Trump's castle gambling casino "are not being made."

The announcement suggested that a bailout by banks which have lent Trump some \$2 billion, under which he was to have received \$60 million cash and suspension of some interest payments, had fallen through.

Aside from humiliation for a man who once boasted of a net worth of billions, it was unclear whether the payment failure foreshadowed the dismantling of his empire of real estate, casinos and a shuttle airline.

Two out of the big three automakers saw ratings on their senior debt lowered by Standard and Poor's Corp during the week. The credit-rating agency said the Ford Motor Co and Chrysler Corp faced lean times, citing stiff competition, overcapacity in the industry and weak car demand.

Standard and Poor's downgraded Ford senior debt to AA-minus and Chrysler's to BBB-minus. The latter rating was just one level above so-called speculative grade debt. But the agency left the senior debt of General Motors Corp untouched. Around \$200 billion of car industry debt was concerned overall.

The announcement was a blow to the struggling US automobile industry. The two downgraded companies both

said they were "disappointed" by the agency's move, and said they would continue their investment programmes. Standard and Poor's warned that those new product development programmes could strain resources.

The downgrade came one day after the release of statistics showing sales of domestic cars and trucks fell 13.1 per cent in the June 1-10 period. But all of the decline was attributed to the big three, because the seven Japanese makers with US operations reported higher sales.

The nation continued to grapple with the savings and loan bailout. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady told Congress the Resolution Trust Corp., the federal agency created to shut down troubled thrifts and sell off their assets to pay depositors, would soon exhaust its \$50 billion operating fund.

The stock market got back on the winning track this week, with the Dow Industrials managing to set another all-time high, rebounding from their first

losing week since April.

The deterioration of the nation's savings and loan industry, called by many in Congress the worst financial debacle since the depression, is expected to cost taxpayers between \$325 billion and \$500 billion.

The RTC said last week it had sold 13,200 foreclosed thrift properties since August. However, its holdings of such properties grew 14 per cent to a total of 35,908 worth \$14.92 billion when seized.

The US commercial banking industry has problems too, though not to the same extent as the devastated thrift industry. Troubled real-estate loans translated into a 14-per-cent first-quarter earnings decline for US banks, said Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. chairman William Seidman.

But the first-quarter earnings of \$6.23 billion, while off from \$7.25 billion in the year-earlier quarter, represented an improvement over slim

profits of \$2.1 billion in the last quarter of 1989 and even more so over the 1989 third quarter's loss of \$603 million.

Despite recent Federal Reserve assurances that the United States is not caught up in a credit squeeze, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher told a newspaper that "it is serious and it appears to be exacerbating." He warned Fed chairman Alan Greenspan it was high time to bring down interest rates.

But economic indicators out in the week gave analysts little cause to believe that a Fed easing of short-term rates was imminent.

May retail sales declined 0.7 per cent, reflecting economic weakness. But on a wholesale level prices rose 0.3 per cent in May after three straight declines, and although consumer prices posted a smaller-than-expected increase of 0.2 per cent, the evidence did not augur looser credit.

An even stronger case against the US

Central Bank's lowering the so-called federal funds rate was a 0.6 per cent gain in industrial production, more than the 0.4 per cent expected. Industrial capacity rose 0.3 per cent, higher than the projected 0.2 per cent, suggesting some economic strength.

The wind of change, or at least a strong breeze, was felt at the New York Stock Exchange this week. Officials said after-hours trading will begin later this year and by 1991 could be taking place at night, electronically, to meet challenges from London, Tokyo and other global bourses.

Meanwhile, a stock exchange opened after October's "Friday" the 13th, market plunge, came out with controversial recommendations saying authorities should oblige exchange to shut down in high volatility. But it minimized the danger from computerized programme trading, which many have suggested was a major aggravating factor in the October break and the 1987 crash.

Amman still needs \$770m in external aid this year

Jordan gets \$40m in aid from UAE

AMMAN, June 16, (Reuters): Jordan, dependent on Arab aid to cover its budget deficit, has received \$40 million from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), an official said today.

King Hussein appealed for financial help at last month's Arab summit in Baghdad, saying Jordan had exhausted its material resources and could no longer stand alone against Israel.

The official said Amman had received \$25 million from Iraq, which has promised a total of 50 million this year.

Earlier in the year the UAE donated \$20 million, Qatar 10

million and Oman five million. Jordan has thus received a total of \$100 million towards its budgeted target of 360 million from Arab states.

Officials said after the Baghdad summit that Saudi Arabia had pledged to provide \$500 million, and the UAE 75 million, but the figures remain unconfirmed.

Saudi Arabia, Jordan's main financial backer in recent years, paid at least \$200 million last year, but has not disclosed this year's aid level.

Jordan, burdened by a foreign

debt of \$8 billion, embarked on an austerity programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund in April 1989.

A senior official told Reuters this month that despite debt rescheduling agreements with its government and commercial creditors, Jordan still needed \$770 million in external aid this year and would like a solid Arab commitment of \$1.25 billion annually for the next eight years.

An Arab summit in Baghdad in 1978 pledged \$12 billion over 10 years to Jordan as a "front-line" state against Israel but less

than half of it arrived.

Arab leaders at last month's Baghdad summit approved assistance for Jordan but said actual aid levels should be decided bilaterally.

In another development, Iraq today offered Arab investors rent-free sites to build five-star hotels.

The State Tourism Commission, in an advertisement, said the businessmen would be able to repatriate foreign currency earnings for 10-15 years, after which the state would take over the hotels.

No breakthroughs

Baker, Nakayama in trade talks

SAN FRANCISCO, June 16, (UPI): Secretary of State James Baker met with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama yesterday and officials said they made no breakthroughs on plans to narrow the trade gap between the two nations.

Speaking to reporters after the three-hour meeting, a senior state department official said Nakayama was "very firmly committed" to reducing the \$49 billion US trade deficit with Japan.

In the two days before the San Francisco meeting, senior Bush administration officials accused Japan of dragging its feet in talks on the structural impediments initiative, the year-old effort to identify and alter legal and cultural barriers to trade.

But the senior official, who spoke with reporters anonymously, declined to go beyond an April report on the issue.

"The nature of this meeting was not to produce breakthroughs but to emphasise the importance we place on the issue," he said.

Before the meeting, Baker denied that trade talks

between the two countries were stalled.

"Not at all," Baker said when asked about a reported snag in year-old talks to reduce the trade deficit. "You see me here."

The meeting was a prelude to the July 9-11 economic summit in Houston with leaders of the seven leading non-Communist industrial nations.

The two countries issued an interim report on the talks in April that outlined proposed trade reforms on both sides. A final report is due by July, and Bush administration officials said the Japanese were reluctant to move beyond the April report.

In addition to trade talks, Baker briefed Nakayama on President Bush's summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and on Baker's discussions with NATO foreign ministers in early June. But trade was at the top of the agenda.

The talks were said to be stalled on a number of issues, particularly Japanese spending on its internal infrastructure.

World Bank loan to India

WASHINGTON, June 16, (UPI): The World Bank yesterday announced a \$95.8 million loan in concessionary terms to support India's fight against malnutrition in the state of Tamil Nadu.

The \$95.8 million financing is being granted by the International Development Association, the bank's concessionary terms lending affiliate that helps the poorest countries.

The bank said that more than three million children and two million mothers will benefit from the rural nutrition project in Tamil Nadu.

The project will help strengthen or set up 20,000 village nutrition centres, where trained personnel will provide nutrition supplements for children.

Debt could delay steel project

LAGOS, June 16, (Reuters): Completion of a huge Soviet-designed Nigerian steel plant, due in 1991, could be delayed if the Nigerian government does not repay a large loan from Moscow, a senior Soviet official said yesterday.

Oleg Davydov, deputy minister for foreign economic relations, told reporters Nigeria had made no payments since 1986 on a 1.2 billion mark (\$710 million) credit to help fund the Ajakuta plant.

"We are not insisting on immediate payment in full, but the time to solve this matter has come," said Davydov, who is leading a trade delegation to Nigeria. Failure to do so would make completing the construction difficult, he added.

Conceived in the oil boom of the 1970s, and originally intended to start production in 1989 as the heart of an integrated steel industry for Africa's most populous country, Ajakuta has been crippled by financial and other woes.

French contractors abandoned the site for almost two years at one stage because they had not been paid.

Nigeria's military government insists Ajakuta, at a remote site on the west bank of Niger river, will reach its planned 1.5 million tonnes annual capacity in 1991.

About \$5 billion has been sunk into the plant, which already has working forges, foundries, repair, electrochemical and engineering workshops.

But the infrastructure to bring in raw materials such as coking coal and iron ore has yet to be provided.

Davydov said the plant, already capable of producing more than 500,000 tonnes of steel products such as bars and billets, only worked sporadically.

He said a feasibility study had been prepared for a proposed second phase which would produce the flat steel sheets Nigeria really needs for its industrial development.

Per capita exports

Small nations top

ZURICH, June 16, (UPI): The United States, West Germany and Japan may be the world's biggest exporters in absolute terms but small countries have the highest per capita exports, it was reported yesterday.

The United Bank of Switzerland in its June bulletin noted that Singapore and Hong Kong have the highest exports per head of population with \$17,000 and \$13,000 respectively in 1989.

Belgium and Luxembourg followed at \$9,000 while Switzerland placed fourth with per capita exports last year of \$7,700.

The reason the small nations have the highest per capita exports is the relatively small size of their internal markets, meaning they have to sell abroad most of what they produce, the United Bank said.

Exports of Singapore and Hong Kong thus were higher in 1989 than their gross domestic product while in Belgium, and Luxembourg, exporters represented 62 per cent of GDP and 48 per cent in the Netherlands.

In Japan and the United States, however, the proportion of exports was just 10 and 7 per cent respectively, the United Bank reported.

Of the \$3.1 trillion of global exports in 1989, the G-7 leading industrial countries accounted for 51 per cent.



Conference network

"I call books it all" was the theme for the training session on Holiday Inn's latest programme — The Conference Network. The Conference Network is a programme to facilitate reservations for functions/seminars/conferences in all Holiday Inn hotels in Europe, Middle East and Africa. The seminar was held in Kuwait's Holiday Inn and was attended by selected employees of all Gulf properties.

NYSE unveils off-hour trading plan

UK stock market experts puzzled

NEW YORK, June 16, (Reuters): New York Stock Exchange chairman John Phelan is unveiling to member firms a five-stage plan to trade listed securities after-hours in a gradual move towards 24-hour trading, an exchange spokesman said yesterday.

Wall Street executives have said the move is necessary to maintain the Big Board's stature in the face of stiff competition from rivals in London and Tokyo.

Phelan's plan, which he detailed at a news conference on Thursday in Nashville, Tennessee, includes preliminary plans to begin with a 45-minute session shortly after the 4 pm New York close to cross block trades at the closing prices. A cross trade is a securities transaction in which the same broker acts as the agent in both sides of the trade.

Source familiar with the exchange's deliberations said the Big Board currently plans to have such a system up and running by the fourth quarter of this year.

NYSE officials said details are still being hammered out.

Source familiar with the process said exchange staff are working intensively to develop proposals this month, some of which may be considered at a NYSE board meeting in July.

A first phase would permit clean, pre-arranged cross

trades to occur the NYSE steps in a session likely to begin about 15 to 30 minutes after the close, once the consolidated list of closing prices is completed, according to the officials.

A second, briefer phase might last 15 minutes and would allow for some changes in prices to accommodate certain trades.

Phelan said a third phase, which could be implemented in 1991, would provide for electronic auctions of listed stocks at 8 pm, midnight and 5 am New York time.

Phelan said a fourth phase would involve "rudimentary trading during the night," but did not elaborate, and that the exchange envisions a fifth phase that could involve a system for around-the-clock trading in NYSE stocks.

About 160 million shares are traded daily on the Big Board. An additional 20 million to 25 million shares of the more than 1,700 stocks listed on the NYSE are trading daily elsewhere, such as in London and Tokyo, in direct trades between firms and on independent trading systems.

Meanwhile British Stock Market experts said yesterday they were puzzled by the New York Stock Exchange's plan to reschedule trading in US stocks because that business is relatively small in Europe.

TCIL bags major Kuwaiti contract

THE Telecommunication Consultants India Ltd. (TCIL) has signed a contract of 0.91 million Kuwaiti dinars with Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications for looking after the maintenance and operation of Telephone installations, reports Economic Times.

The Indian embassy sources said TCIL, which has been in the country for over a decade, would be responsible for the construction and maintenance of the entire telephone network in Kuwait.

The present contract, the sources added, was earlier awarded to an East European company and has been now re-awarded to TCIL which, sources said, was "unprecedented."

TCIL, which began its operations in Kuwait in 1978 with a 15,000 Kuwaiti dinars contract, has now in hand turnkey projects worth 2.7 million Kuwaiti dinars.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices				Hindustan			
(Rs) June 16, '90.							
	Pr. Close	Open	Close		Pr. Close	Open	Close
ACC	484.50	486	494	Ind Org	59	58.50	57.75
Alm Chem	—	—	—	Ind Rayon	107	106.50	107.50
Alw Nl	—	—	—	Indrol	225.75	229	228.75
Asia Paint	—	—	—	JK Spn	57.75	57	58.50
Asian Op	—	—	—	Kin Engg	163	161.25	162
Ashtok Ley	76	75	77	Kir Comm	78	79	78.50
Auto Corp	228.75	227.50	227.50	KSB Pumps	190	188.25	190
Auto Corp	35.50	35	36	L & T	70	70	72.50
Auto Corp	66.25	65	66	Lipton	77	77	77.50
Auto Corp	420.00	415	422.19	Mac Russel	89	90	89
Bajaj Auto	465	462.50	467.50	Mad Coats	113.50	115	120
Bajaj Auto	877.50	882.50	882.50	Malindira	82.50	82.50	81.25
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	May Share	20.25	20.25	20.25
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Mico	800	790	800
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Milkfed	132.50	132.50	132.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Modi	63.50	63	60
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	MRF Ltd	216.25	215.50	222.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Muk Iron	130	130	130
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Nocil	1250	1245	1250
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Nai Org	—	—	—
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Nippon	33	34	34
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Orbit	17	17	16.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Oswal Agro	32	33.50	32.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Pesco	—	—	—
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Prior	87.50	87	88
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Ponds	237	236	236
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Prem Auto	57.50	57.50	57.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Ranbaxy	96.50	96.50	99
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Ray Wool	89.50	89.50	89
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Reliance	215	213.75	215
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Reliance	62.50	62	62.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Sesa Goa	88	88	90
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Shree Cem	47	45	47
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Shri Fib	—	—	—
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Sinchem	105	104	108
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	SKF	1450	1440	1455
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	St Mills	57.25	57	57.50
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—	Tata Oil	82.50	80.50	81
Bajaj Auto	—	—	—				

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

Official Timer

SEIKO

1978, 1982, 1986 & ITALIA '90

Around Town



A local group playing Arabian music.



Dr. Hisham Ghaleb (right) head of KISR's social committee seen with some of the staff.

KISR's annual social

In a fun-filled evening at the SAS last week Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research honoured winners at sports and cultural activities organised by its social committee during the last year. More than 500 staff members and their families attended the annual event and enjoyed Kuwaiti, Palestinian, Egyptian and Iraqi live music. Dr Hisham Ghaleb, head of the social committee, gave out trophies and gifts to winning staff members and to members of the committee in appreciation of their efforts.



Some KISR staff and their families.

Oriental beauty tips

AFTER automobiles and electronics, the Japanese are now exporting Oriental beauty tips to the Gulf. Shiseido — a range of makeup and skincare products were introduced last week at a press briefing by the Tokyo-based company's sales manager Mitsuo Miyajima and training manager Mariko Hara.

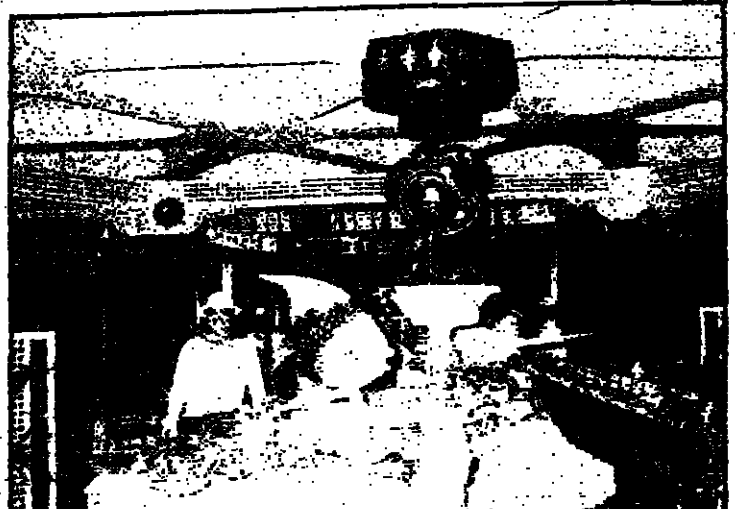
The company was set up in 1872 in Ginza, Tokyo. Some 90 per cent of its sales are absorbed by the Japanese market. It began exporting only in 1965 to the US, Italy (1968) and France and West Germany (1980) followed. Today, they export to 30 countries with 7,700 outlets. Shiseido products are said to be the No. 3 best-sellers on the world market, according to the April edition of the European Forecast magazine.

Miyajima says only ten per cent of Shiseido's total production is exported. Shiseido is now exploring the possibility of starting overseas manufacturing units.

The ABC of beauty care — Japanese style — is a combination of the concept of skincare-cum-makeup. Their fashion message concentrates on "bringing out the essence of life." Thus, darker eyes, redder lips and natural nails. Sergei Lutens, formerly with Christian Dior, has created the 1990 autumn-winter range which will be launched here in October by Shiseido's local agents, Electronics Appliances Company.



● Father Agnello of the Holy Family Cathedral recently visited the newly opened Filipino restaurant, Cafe Maharlika. Above: Father Agnello with cafe owner Larry Gallardo and other guests.



● Seafood promotion, every Wednesday at 7 pm in Mubarakiyah Restaurant, Messilah Beach Hotel. Above: the buffet with the marine touch.



Mitsuo Miyajima (centre) flanked by Grand Stores general manager Tareq Rishaq and Mariko Hara at the press briefing.

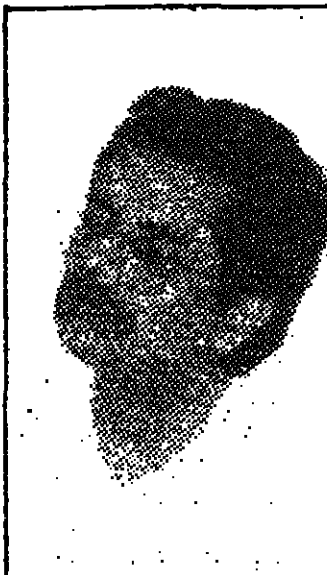


Chaine des Rotisseurs

The Kuwait Chapter of the Chaine des Rotisseurs recently held a gala dinner at the SAS Hotel's Chinese restaurant, Peacock Room. The guest of honour was Chinese Ambassador Guan Zi Huai. Above: (L-R) Kathy McGregor, Ralph Williams, Jean Kuendig, SAS general manager, who welcomed the guests.

In memory

Kuwait Basmeh Adabi held a mushaira in memory of late Shafi Saadi, who died on May 25 in Kuwait. The event was held at the home of Jagdish Singh Arora. Dr Masood Alam Shams presided; chief guest was Tahir Parvez. Some of the poets who participated in the poetry evening included Abdul Hamid Hosh, Tahir Kafil, Niyaz, Banarsi, Kedar Nahn Kedar, Noor Parkar, Jasbir Singh Dhiman, Jagdish Singh Arora, Baqi Ahmed Pun, Mohamad Kamal Azhar and Rashed Mewati. Shahjehan Jafri Hijab was the compere.



Noor Parkar

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.10 Nabia Wa Saleh: cartoon serial
- 9.40 Ifrah Ya Simsim
- 10.10 Good Morning
- 10.30 Ahlam Al Zahira: Arabic serial: part 8, featuring Majdi Wahba, Karima Mukhtar, Madiha Hamdi, Ibrahim Al Shami
- 11.15 News summary
- 12.00 Al Raseef Al Barad: Arabic serial, part 8; featuring Mahmood Saeed, Shafiqah Al Talli, Fuad Al Shomili
- 1.20 Songs
- 1.30 Sanavar: cartoon serial
- 2.00 News in Arabic
- 2.15 Ailiah Bu Jassoum: Kuwaiti serial, ep. 8; featuring Hussain Qattan, Abdul Wahab Dosari, Moosa Al Hazim
- 3.35 Alif Laila Wa Laila: featuring Muna Abdul Ghani. Part one.
- 4.00 Russkies: English feature film
- 5.30 Sally: cartoon serial
- 6.00 Cartoons
- 6.30 Kana Ma Kana: children's serial
- 7.30 You and Your Health: presented by Dr Hussein Mounis
- 8.05 Diwanat Shuara Al Nabt: poetry session
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Rajul Wal Qataar: Arabic serial
- 11.15 Makhloq Ismahu Al Imraa: Al Mutaalqaqah". Starring: Farouk Fishawi, Shahira, Tahiya Karioka, Hassan Mustafa, Hussein Sharbini
- 12.15 News Summary
- 12.20 World News Via Satellite
- 12.35 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Bears: cartoon serial



- 6.30 The Beachcombers: "Disposible People". Jesse, Nick and Laurel are torn between Sara's kind-hearted deeds and their disdain for a woman's unusual lifestyle.
- 7.00 The Politics of Food: "U.S.A." This documentary examines America's role as the biggest exporter of cereals while it deals with feeding 20 million starving citizens in the country.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Madlock: Ben Matlock and his associates fight difficult cases in and out of court.
- 9.30 Body Matters: Body temperature and how this is maintained is examined in tonight's episode.
- 10.00 The Two of Us: "The Duke of Lawford". Brentwood invites a

British lord to visit the family, and the lady of the house feels it is great opportunity to propose marriage.

10.30 Best-Seller: "Always Afternoon". Romance blossoms between an Australian woman and a German prisoner-of-war.

12.00 News in Brief

12.10 Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown

Sports Channel Channel 6/45

- 5.00 Sports Analysis
- 5.30 World Cup: Egypt vs Ireland (Live)
- 8.00 Sports Review
- 10.00 World Cup: Uruguay vs Belgium (Live)
- 12.10 World Cup: Spain vs S. Korea (recording)

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

WHAT'S ON

Social

Pakistan Arts Circle

June 30: The initial membership campaign of the Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans) will end on June 30 to prepare for elections of a new executive committee. All Pakistanis are invited to join the PAC by completing the membership form. PAC membership is open to any Pakistani wishing to join the group at any time. For details call: 5716388; 5631815; 4843578; 2414570.

Pakistanis Welfare Society

June 19: 5.30 pm. The monthly meeting of Pakistanis Welfare Society will be held at the residence of Liaquat Ali. Members are requested to come on time.

Festival on Ice

June 27: 6 pm. British Council will hold a reception for all students who will be studying in the UK this autumn. The party will be for all students who have been offered a place at any university, polytechnic or college in Britain.

Overseas students party

June 27: 6 pm. British Council will hold a reception for all students who will be studying in the UK this autumn. The party will be for all students who have been offered a place at any university, polytechnic or college in Britain.

Education Office, British Council, 2 Al Arabi St., Mansouriya.

D'Assissi Association celebrates 10th anniversary Oct 4: Holy mass at 6.30 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait City, followed by a social at 8.30 pm at the Messilah Beach Hotel. For more details please contact Tel. No. 2469811/12 or 3717346 after 5.30 pm.

Hotels

At Ramada Al Salam

Al Bandar Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

At Mawardi Open-Air Cafe:

open from 6 pm to midnight.

At Gandoul Grill Garden:

open after 6 pm; grilled food.

Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm,

ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

At the Messilah Beach

Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.

Al Berdowneh: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie

Thai Corner: Saturday night.

Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music.

Chinese Corner: Monday night feature.

Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bousoiki music.

Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays; food prepared in front of you.

Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night.

Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day. Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

At the Holiday Inn Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets — Continental and Oriental cuisine.

Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic Nite, every Thursday; Arabic band entertains guests.

Friday Family Lunch: Disney fantasy on Fridays.

At the SAS

Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music.

Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet.

Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Plaza:

Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.

Lolouwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.

Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

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CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Raqassah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil

Al Sahriya
Hanafi Al Abahu (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi

Al Hamra
Ana Wal Azaab Wa Huwak (Arabic)
Starring: Waleed Tawfiq

Drive-In
Al Raqassah Wal Siyasi (Arabic)

Al Firdous
Subah-o-Sham (Hindi)

Starring: Waheeda Rehman, Sanjeev Kumar

Fahad Open-Air
Raffoo Chakkar (Hindi)

Al Fahad
Sour Grapes

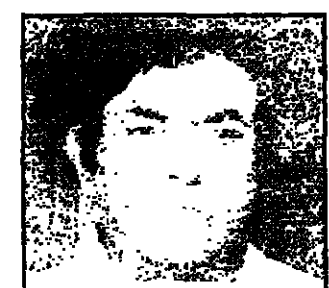
Al Jahra
Phir Wohi Raat (Hindi)

Granada
Mera Suhaag (Hindi)

Sulabhkhat
Cry Freedom

Al Jleeb
Nair Sahab (Malayalam)
Starring: Mammooty

Ahmadi Drive-In
No Hard Feelings



Sanjeev Kumar

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.13 am
Zuhr	11.49
Asr	3.22 pm
Maghreb	6.49
Isha	8.22

FILIPINO DIGEST

Visit to Iligan

IT is an urban centre and industrial hub that amazes, especially since we travelled there by land from bucolic Dipolog. That entailed a 4:30am bus ride — very fast, with a very sure driver, through sleeping coconut groves, and barrios waking to market days. "Stationary," the bus is called when it stops at almost every barrio; "4-stop" when it makes only major stops. And yet our bus did stop when it was flagged down by young vendors taking their goods to the Ozamis market (the scheduled bus had not appeared), which is how we bought a bottle of fresh sea urchins, and carried it all the way to Iligan, protecting it from jolting and jarring.

From Ozamis to Kolambagan by land, then to Iligan by very crowded bus (boy porters push your bags through the window, while one buy tickets — not available before hand and the other struggles into the bus to sit where the bags are), dusty and packed, in which everyone is kind and courteous. One first senses Iligan because of the large industrial plants (steel, power, industrial chemicals) — and the lechon. This, everyone said, was special to Iligan: "Didn't you see it Sunday at Tibanga?" All those stalls, and huts, and whole families picnicking around lechon?

Yes we did, and so one of our first explorations was to Bayug, where the Abitago family build their lives around lechon. It started with their father, a lechonero. One pig was turning on a spit when we arrived in mid-morning; another was wrapped and awaiting delivery, but Teresa Abitago, daughter-in-law, told us that 30-40 are roasted on Sundays, and 400 on one single fiesta day, or on Christmas and New Year's days.

The Abitago lechon is made from pigs trucked in every other day from Zamboanga, with a preference for black rather than "piggery" pigs, because the latter have "watery" flesh. They are stuffed with tanglad (lemon grass) if the customer so prefers, or rubbed with a flavoring mixture of leeks, red peppers, onions, pepper, salt, and vetsein — the proportion depending on the size of the pig, and on Mother Abitago's experienced timpla. They are browned/basted with water and brown sugar, or with Coke, when in a rush. Orders come with all the innards, which the customer may have as is, or made into sampayna (dinuguan) or paklay, which they identify simply as "sampayna without the blood." Lechon sells for P75 a kilo, and Iliganos do not eat it with salsa (although this may be made to order), but with vinegar, toyo, and sili.

The 20-year-old business has sent the

children to school, and now employs most of the family, even the small children, who work (basting, turning the spit) on a voluntary (and salaried) basis. Mr Abitago himself has moved to California, having been born in Hawaii, the son of a sacada.

Another successful enterprise Iligan is proud of is Cheding's Peanuts — dry-roasted, greaseless, shelled (P88 per ganta), made by Isidra Ansing and sold at her store on Sabayle Street (tel. 21054). This simple product, recipe "from a Chinese book," is made of peanuts bought in Marawi and Cotabato (none in Iligan), pan-roasted in water and salt by a secret process, and has won National Cottage Industry and other awards. It is marketed at Iligan and Cagayan de Oro supermarkets, and considered one of the "musts" of Iligan.

The two markets of Iligan, one called the "supermarket" and the other the "mercado," yield everything from wonderful bananas to roses and other cut flowers, from bundles of pako (all year round) to umpteen varieties of fish (they supply Marawi City) — from giant yellow-fin tuna to pin-sized siyag-siyagan.

One-fourth kilo of the latter taken back to the Iligan Village Hotel made for a memorable breakfast. Surrendering this and our treasured bottle of sea urchins to the hotel cook, we got both back kinilaw, plus siyag-siyagan fritters and a sea urchin omelet — beside the flowering orchids of hotel owners Ms Libron, with the sunlight streaming onto our breakfast-from-the-sea. Could one ask more of an Iligan morning?

Because of its big-city status (29,000 population), there are quite a number of restaurants in Iligan, all of them serving varieties of kinilaw, which seems to be the Visayas-Mindanao signature dish. This is especially interesting at the Coconut Palace (Badelles St., tel. 21723, beside the museum and the Lanao Regional Trial Court), which has both a fish (tanguing) and a wild boar kinilaw — skin and lean (not much fat on a wild animal) boiled and mixed with vinegar, onions, ginger and peppers. There is also wild boar steak, adobo, and sinugba (great, gamey flavour), attesting to the availability of game. The owner, Rene del Rosario, in fact has a butcher shop nearby (Golden Glow Homestyle Food Products), which has sulo (boar) fresh and tapa almost all the time.

The Coconut Palace has a counter, stools like sawed-off tree trunks, and a sand floor downstairs, and a breeze-conditioned balcony-like dining room upstairs, offering mugs of paklay, la-oya or balbakwa (ortola), one of the best apan-

apan (kangkong) we've ever had, and a repertoire of sinugba.

Sunburst, the fried chicken (southern style) chain found in Cebu and Cagayan de Oro, started in Iligan, and its fans declare it better than anything found in Manila. The Galerie de Iligan (Ramiro Street, tel. 20600) is where the Iligan Arts Council led by all-round theatre man Steven Patrick Fernandez, meet and hang out. Its decor blends ethnic and modern art, as its menu blends Visayan-Manila dishes.

Patio Alejandra (San Miguel St., 21214) must have the largest and most varied menu in the whole of Iligan, seemingly including everything the Filipino associates with eating out: Filipino, Chinese, Spanish, American, continental, Korean, Japanese, etc. dishes. It lists "shoot to kill" — sinugba-tinola-kinilaw dishes — including sugkila, a combination of sinugba pork strips and fish kinilaw. Dazzled by the variety, we picked out a fish menu with Spanish rice, and a sizzling beef brisket with vegetables, both quite good.

We also tried the Maranaw restaurants on Cabili Street, but must save that story for another column. The Terrace Restaurant at the Iligan Village Hotel deserves a note too, for its surrounding orchids, waiters helpful beyond the call of duty (they refrigerate our marang, accept our special orders, etc.), and range of food (mainly Chinese-Filipino), including set meals for each day (P40,000) which can be ordered on any day (e.g. "I'll have a Tuesday, and he'll have a Friday").

Friends declare, however, that the best restaurant in town is Cafe Hermoso (Badelles St., tel. 20809), unique in that it accepts customers only upon reservation. This is the private home of Batangueños Teresita Umali and Celso E. Hermoso which, after their five children were grown, was set up as a place where their catering customers could dine and meet. Iligan, Mr. Hermoso explains, is a city in which most people do not take guests out to dine, but instead order food in — usually from the Hermosos, who are often guests at parties serving their own food. Now that Cafe Hermoso exists, it is a favourite for private business meetings, especially since it only accepts 50-60 guests maximum, and carefully separates meeting groups in order to safeguard privacy. The decor is gracious, Maranaw with other touches, and there is seminar space as well for 120 — "socialised pricing," Mr Hermoso laughs, since religious and school groups have even gotten it for free.

There are also two rooms (usually booked by US embassy guests and visiting

professors) for rent — better than any hotel, attests Johnny Francisco of Fulbright. The house specialties are Mrs Hermoso's homecooked and smoked ham (the secret: guava leaves) and tinapa, broiled spareribs, pako with crabs, coconut milk and chili, lasagna, and steaks from Del Monte. Our only meal at Cafe Hermoso was breakfast the day we left, and it was memorable: a perfect papaya, Batangas barako coffee, home-made rolls, fried eggs, tinapa (hass-hasa) and a delicate lasagna. I'm going back.

Dinner was gracious at the home of Mayor Camilo Cabili and his wife, the former Leny Alano of the Bayanihan. Mayor Cabili has been mayor for some two decades, and still he looks young and vital and is excited about his city and its products, especially durian. Ms Cabili works at the mayor's office as special assistant, making arrangements for DOT inspections, information, etc. Still she spends time and concern on her lovely garden, on her landscaping enterprise, and on the support of Iligan cultural events, such as the famous yearly September comedia about St Michael Archangel, and presentations of Steve Fernandez' Ipag (Iligan Performing Arts Group), which includes plays and, when we were there, a show called Heart Attack, comprising stand-up comedy, mime, dance, and song, showcasing their multiple talents and meta-energy.

Dinner included pako with crabs and coconut milk, fried rice sprinkled with crisp-fried baby sole, fritters of tiny fish, a salad of ampalaya and ginger, the lechon made by their friend Boy Siao, Iligan mangoes and macopa from the garden as dessert. The mangoes, Leny laughed, were homegrown, and so good that they were sometimes "exported" to Cebu and "imported" back by Iliganos as "Cebu mangoes." The lechon they were especially proud of, because Boy Siao grows and roasts his own pigs. It is served conchanted on a tray, such that guests can carve their own servings. The skin is crisp; the tanglad stuffing aromatic; the ribs pull off with ease, and are seductively tender. It needs no salsa or sawsawan.

Iligan is difficult to capsuleize, so large and varied is it. One of our best days was spent at the Iligan Institute of Technology, dialoguing with faculty and students of the English and Social Sciences departments, and sharing their plans and thoughts about food, culture and Iligan which, urban and industrialised, is still small enough and friendly enough to feel like a community of caring people.

BAGUIO CITY: Illegal gambling, particularly "jueteng," no longer exists in this city, mayor Jaime Bugnosen reported.

Bugnosen also reported that the Small Town Lotter (STL) operated by the Diamond Amusement Corp. was suspended last March 4 and the operator's permit was cancelled on May 7.

The mayor belied a report in a local newspaper that he was involved in illegal gambling and that his office personnel were quavering over commissions from "jueteng" operators.

He assailed his political enemies for "maliciously peddling lies aimed at promoting their mayoralty ambitions."

Lt Col Florencio Fianza, new provincial commander of Benguet, told the mayor in a conference that jueteng and other forms of illegal gambling had been stopped in the city.

Fianza assured the mayor that his command would actively support the drive to permanently rid this tourist city of illegal gambling.

OLONGAPO CITY: A nine-year-old boy shot and killed a man who barged in their house, Capt Herminia Abides reported to Metrodomic chief Lt Col MacArthur Torres.

Abides said that about 10 am Thursday, the man identified as Rolando Hardin, 24, of block 21, Gordon Heights, this city went to the house of Hector Mangilagan E. Patrimonio, 9, of purok 4, barangay Bareto and asked him (Hector) where his parents were.

When Hector refused to give the whereabouts of his parents, the man cursed him and threatened to shoot him and his two younger sisters.

Police said that when the man went to the kitchen to drink, he pulled out his .375 magnum pistol from the waist and left it on a bench.

When he turned his back, Hector took the gun. When he returned from the kitchen, Hector shot him, hitting him three times.

The man died five hours later at Olongapo City General Hospital.

IBA, Zamboanga: Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr has defended the performance of the House of Representatives in a speech delivered during the joint induction and ball of Zamboanga Ladies Circle and the League of Barangay Tanods of Zamboanga held at the People's Park here.

Mitra, who was the inducting officer and guest of honour on invitation of Rep. Pacita Trinidad-Gonzalez, told the more than 5,000 listeners that "Congress works for the welfare of the people, especially the common man."

He narrated his humble beginnings as an orphan in a remote Palawan barrio and how he "foraged for food and farmed to survive having been orphaned at 11 months and left to the care of a poor grandmother."

Mitra assured the people that the "land reform will be realized" because "I am committed to land reform."

He assured the barangay tanods who were organized into a league by Justice Raul Gonzalez that he will work for their benefits — namely, insurance and honoraria, and improved status as law enforcers with the barangays.

"I will work with my wife, Congresswoman Gonzalez, to introduce legislation for added benefits for the tanods and other barangay officials," he said.

Mitra chided critics of Congress "who do not know what they are talking about," adding that "only the constituents of the congressmen can properly evaluate the work of their representatives."

He cited the "excellent performance of Congresswoman Gonzalez who has brought many public improvements in her district through hard work, persistence, and dedication for the welfare of her constituents."

The affair was also attended by House Assistant Majority leader Concoy Chavez and Quezon City Councilor Clelio "Mahal" del Mundo.

MANILA: The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) will recruit 8,000 to 13,000 more members of the Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) to boost the anti-insurgency programme of the government.

Defence Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita said the 62,000 Cafgu men recruited last year are not enough to sustain "consolidation process" in barangays freed by the military from com-

munist hold and influence. The Cafgu members, serving as territorial forces, stay in barangays liberated by the military from the communist rebels to make sure that former rebel-infested areas will not fall again into the hands of rebels.

In some provinces, such as Samar, Leyte, and Nueva Vizcaya, the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) has established its shadow government.

Ermita said the Cafgus specifically take part in the "total approach strategy" which calls for the clearing, holding, and consolidating of barangays taken by the CPP-NPA.

The Cafgus come in the holding and consolidating phases of the military's "liberation" programme, Ermita said.

"We want to make sure rebels will not have a chance to go back to their bases and camps as the Cafgus can always conduct surveillance and information gathering work for the military," he added.

The AFP trains a Cafgu member for two months before he is assigned to the place where he lives. A member gets P940 monthly subsistence allowance, a gun, and free uniform once he passes military training.

CAVITE: The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) expanded its search operations for the remaining four missing crewmen of the MV Virgen de la Paz which sank last week off Cavite.

Commander Carlos Agustin PCG commander, dispatched a team of divers to San Nicolas Shoals where the ship sank and conducted the search operations around Corregidor Island.

The MV Nien Jiang, a Chinese-registered ship, hit the MV Virgen de la Paz while on its way to Cebu. Twenty-one crewmen of the ship were rescued by the PCG team in Cavite.

A PCG helicopter was flown over San Nicolas Shoals to survey the area where the ship sank. A PCG patrol craft scoured Manila Bay.

A team of PCG divers led by Lt. Fernando del Rosario also located the wreckage of the MV Virgen de la Paz but found no body of crewmen in the sunken ship.

SAN FERNANDO, LA Union: Some hawkers from Ilocos region warned that they will work for the ouster of regional directors who will smug regional conference on the implementation of development projects in the countryside.

Let by Rep. Jose de Venecia (Pangasinan), the congressmen took turns in criticizing some senior regional officials for either coming late or not attending the First Regional development Assembly (RDA) which aims to discuss the budget needed for infrastructure projects in the provinces of Pangasinan, La Union, Ilocos Sur, and Ilocos Norte.

De Venecia said that it was disgusting to note that many of the regional directors failed to join the budget deliberation which, he said, was very important in the formulation of strategies for the effective delivery of basic services to the people in the rural areas.

Rep. Victor Ortega (La Union) expressed similar sentiments, saying "this failure to attend the meeting" should not be tolerated.

BAGUIO CITY: Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. Doctors and other health workers to get their acts together and make health care available to everyone regardless of social and economic status.

Keynoting the 53rd annual convention of the Philippine Medical Association here at the Baguio Convention Centre attended by more than 1,500 members, Mitra said that while life expectancy in the country has improved during the last 18 years due to improved public health, many Filipinos are still dying needlessly from preventable diseases in the rural areas due to the absence of doctors and health workers.

Mitra said that 15 million Filipinos in poor rural areas of the country have remained "hostage to malaria" and more than four million others exposed to sand fever or schistosomiasis because health care is concentrated mostly in urban centres.

He said that the co-relation between poverty and ill health is easily the country's economic indicator, noting the high mortality rate in depressed areas.

Mitra castigated the management of the Department of Health for its "continued centralized policy" in health care despite the existence of different problems and medical priorities in the regions and provinces.

The Speaker lamented the fact that while Congress has been generous in the allocation of funds for public health services, the government's role in health care is simply not enough.

It was in this aspect that Mitra called on the private sector to help by making their health services affordable to the poor.

QUEZON CITY: Four suspected communist members were killed when they shot it out with elements of the Philippine Highway Patrol Group (CHPG) and Quezon city policemen in New Manila, QC.

Police said the suspects sustained multiple gunshot wounds and all died on the spot. No identification papers were found with the bodies.

Initial reports suggest that the car bearing the suspects was seen driving in the vicinity of New Manila.

A caller tipped off the CHPG about the presence of armed men on board a car. A team headed by Mario Cruz of the CHPG task force Limbas was dispatched immediately. It was re-informed by the caller headed by Lt. David Nolasca.

The two teams immediately went to New Manila where they intercepted the suspects carrying olive green Lancia car, carrying on 9th Street. When the latter ordered them to stop for a checkup, the suspects opened fire towards the CHPG. The gunmen gave chase and were about to corner the suspects when the latter opened fire.

The gunmen returned fire, hitting them all fatally. Police recovered from the suspects one automatic rifle and three hand guns. Their bodies were taken to the police morgue for autopsy.

MANILA: Broadcaster Orswaldo A. Carbonell appealed to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to dismiss the charge of "illegal transportation of drugs" against him for "total lack of evidence."

In letters to President Aquino, Defence Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, and Sen. Ernesto Herrera, Carbonell also pleaded for assistance to clear his name. His lawyer, Juan T. David, filed with the DOJ a motion in which Carbonell said "there is no evidence whatsoever, even circumstantial, that would link him with the alleged attempt to smuggle \$40 million worth of heroin through the Ninoy Aquino International Airport last March 14."

Carbonell cited also the sworn testimony of Felipe G. Immaculata clearing him of any complicity.

LAOAG CITY: Dried marijuana leaves worth P3 million were seized by the Coast Guard in Gang, Curimao, Ilocos Norte, last Wednesday in 16 boxes with the words "DHL Worldwide Services," the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) said.

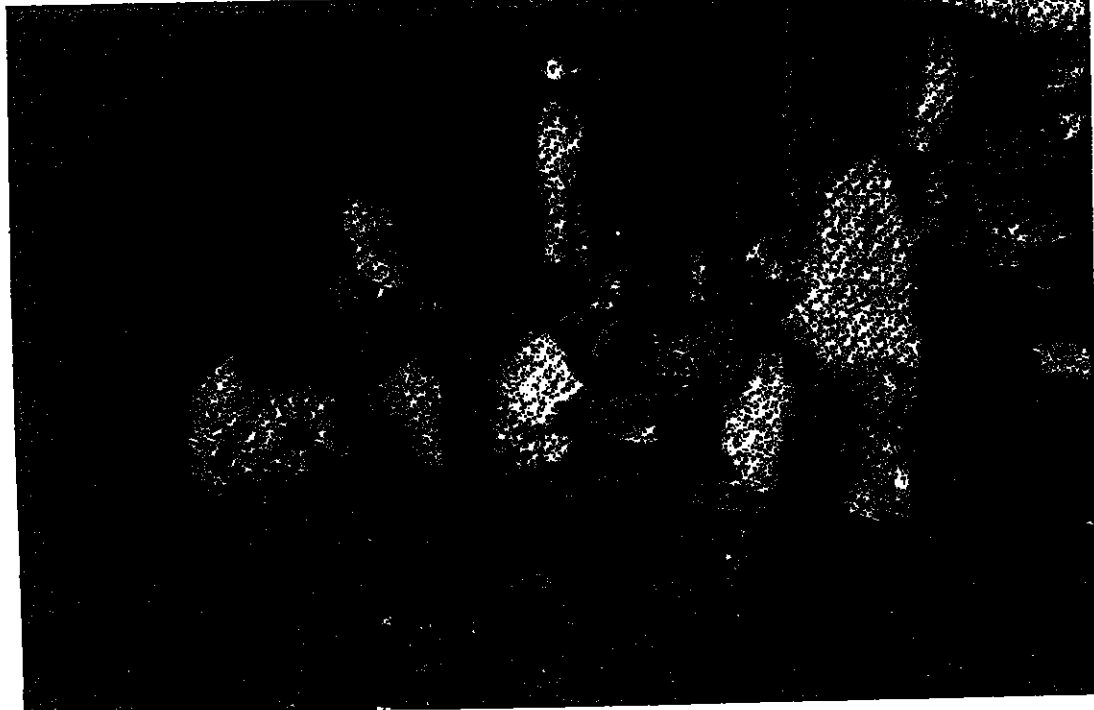
The boxes were dumped into the sea by an unidentified vessel when it was chased by the Coast Guard under Lieut Ricardo Bricio. The vessel fled towards the South China Sea.

The boxes, which floated on water, were recovered by the Coast Guard men. The incident happened while 12 Taiwanese businessmen, accompanied by Rep. Roque Ablan Jr of Ilocos Norte, were touring the place.

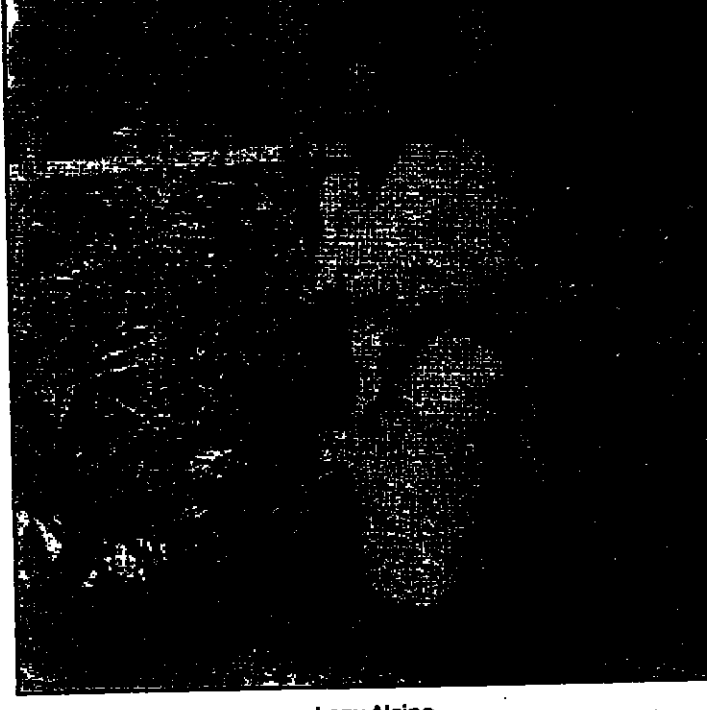
BATANGAS CITY: A total of P49,220,230 was collected by Revenue District Office, No. 38 here during the first quarter of 1990, exceeding by 23.25 per cent its tax goal of P46,610,000 for the period.

Revenue District Office Aguinakdo Miravalles said the first quarter collection posted an increase of P24,384,429 or 98.11 per cent compared to the collection during the same period last year. Miravalles and assistant RDO Cresente Yasona said last April, the district also posted a big tax collection increase. Total collection last April was P38,592,230, exceeding by P13,352,230 or 34.55 per cent its goal of P25,240,000 for the period.

Compared to the collection for the same period last year, the increase was P17,877,447 or 86.36 per cent.



Flowers at the Iligan market.



Leny Alcino

Avoiding prickly heat

SUMMER need not be synonymous with prickly heat. With proper care, children's skin can be prickly heat-free. Here's how:

1. First of all, it is vital to know the nature of the disease. Called "bungang araw" in the Philippines, prickly heat is an inflammatory skin disorder which occurs because of excessive perspiration.

2. Knowing this, it is clear that there is a need to minimize sweating. As you cannot totally eliminate it especially at summertime, be sure that children wear clothes made from light materials and in loose cut. Cotton is a good bet. Don't make them wear tight shorts and frilly, lady dresses.

3. To keep kids cool, make them drink plenty of water, juices and other fluids. Prepare them in pitchers and keep handy in the refrigerator.

4. Another way to keep the cool is to cut their hair short. If a young girl prefers to have long hair, she should at least tie or clip it.

5. The most essential factor in preventing prickly heat is utmost cleanliness. Enjoin children to take a bath frequently, if necessary three times a day.

6. After bathing, apply liberally a medicated powder, with active ingredients specially to prevent dry and cure prickly heat. Do this every now and then in between baths.

Star of the star: Ninfa Leonardia

TO quote lawyer-journalist Rex G. Remetio, it seems only that Bacolod City's Visayan Daily Star, the very first daily in that city, was born almost last April 12, 1990, it has reached its 8th year of survival. Since 1982, the year it was born, it had been beset by doubts from skeptics, crisis and difficulties. That was the time when the sugar-rich province was at its lowest; insurgency and hunger plagued the province, and there was economic crisis. But the newspaper survived and the credit goes to a certain lady who possesses the guts and the never-say die spirit of one born with the printer's ink in her blood.

The name Ninfa R. Leonardia. A woman every woman aspires to be. A combination of beauty, talent, intelligence and character. That is a combination that certainly fits her to a T with her position as Editor-in-Chief and President of the Visayan Daily Star.

Having achieved several "firsts" is nothing new to Ninfa. She was the first lady president of the Negros Press Club, twice elected, in that predominantly male organization. She was awarded the distinction of being the only lady president of a provincial press club by the National Press Club that year. She was also Vice President of the Federation of Provincial Press Clubs of the Philippines and member of the Committee on Scholarships of the National Press Clubs in that year.

Another "first" to Ninfa's credit during her tenure as president of the Negros Press Club was the presentation of the first Goldenrod in that city which was held during its induction of officers, much to the discomfiture of the city and provincial officials who were the subjects of the skit. That year also marked the birth of the "NPC Copy" the club's monthly bulletin, the only newsletter of a press club in the country.

Lumped together among other

activities during Ninfa's presidency were: the giving out of scholarships to deserving students, the Taal Fund Drive where monetary contributions from the club were sent to the victims of the Taal volcano disaster through the club, the holding a journalism workshop for student writers, etc.

But of course, her crowning glory is her pet project, The Visayan Daily Star. Commented a colleague: "She's not the hard-boiled kind of female editor who gets mad at the sight of dangling modifiers and misspelled words nor does she perceive threats to press freedom as her boiling mad with rage. A rare woman indeed, with her cool calm and collected manner."

The same colleague related to us, for instance, that when a legislator made sarcastic remarks about the media being hungry for sensational stories about press freedom and integrity, she answered (in her column) her usual cool and candid manner: "I don't know about the others but I can always look at this legislator straight in the eye and say, 'you look hungrier than I am.'"

During the Aquino assassination, the Star was singled out as a subversive press by a military official in the region because of its coverage of the event, and Ninfa demanded a retraction. She got it and — an added apology. In another instance, a military officer denied some things the Star stuck to its story. Confrontation ensued between the officer and his aides on one side and Ninfa and her reporter on the other. And who do you think won in the argument? Ninfa, of course. She has a way with words, softly spoken but steel-strong, unflinching in any crisis whatsoever.

Members of her staff divulged to us how their beauty-and-brains editor went through several skirmishes for the survival of the Star. They recounted how once, she drove

through narrow eskinitas in the dead of night, looking for strippers because the paper had to come out the next day, and the regular stripper was absent; how she worked with them in the press production area too excited because the next day's issue had reached 10 pages where ordinarily, it has only six; how she solicited subscriptions and ads from organizations, asking for support, besides.

"Today," said Eli Tajanlangit, its business manager, "the paper is starting to feel the tension that bedevils all newspapers — that of balancing the ads and the editorial content. From time to time, the Star also receives irate calls from readers who



do not receive their copies for the day. That's how saleable. The Star is in this community."

"Of course, we could not have done all these, without the help of the people of Bacolod City and Negros Occidental, my colleagues and the members of my staff. To all of them, I owe a debt of gratitude," says Ninfa.

An AB and BSE graduate of Las Consolacion College of Bacolod City (with honors), Ninfa took up graduate studies in Mass Communications at the UP Institute of Mass Communications, first spilling her journalistic ink in the pages of LCC's school organ, as its editor. Later, she became correspondent of the Evening News and afterwards correspondent-columnist of the Bacolod Chronicle, a supplement of the Manila Chronicle.

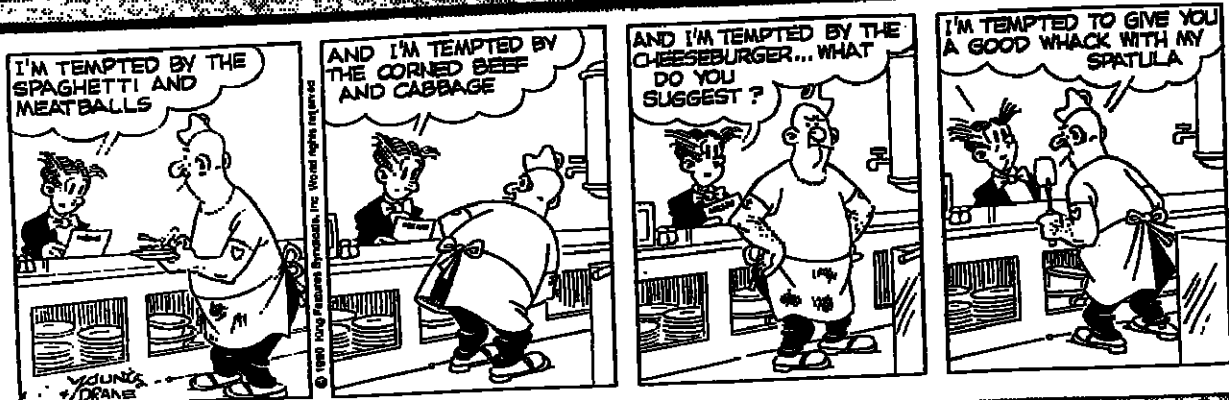
Oh, yes, many have called (suits, we mean) but not one has yet been chosen. She's a bachelorette, by choice, mind you. She said, she's too absorbed in her work, which is to make the Star, the best community newspaper in the country, that Mr. Right will have to wait for a little while, yet. Anyway, it is said that bachelorettes are far more capable of adjusting to the single life than bachelors are. And even with all these honours and awards, and in spite of Women's Lib, Mono's as some intimates call her, still has her feet firmly on the ground and wears the same sized hat.

Now, why does she shy away from marriage? "I do not," she emphatically declares. "As I said you try work is my love, at present. When the time for love, courtship and marriage comes, I'll give it a chance. But I'll still stick it with the Star."

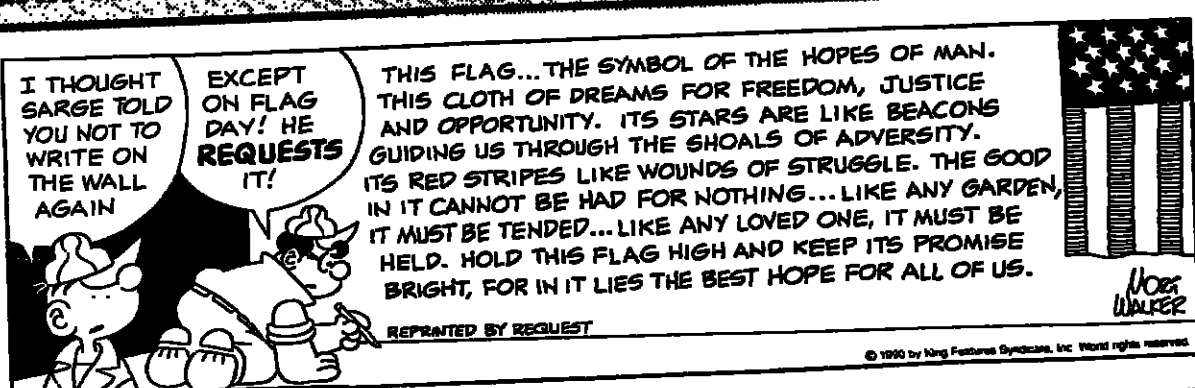
Love me, love the Star? "Sort of," says this fair curly-haired damsel who's more than once alluded to as the Sophia Loren of the Philippines. A media man, then? "Maybe."

LEISURE

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



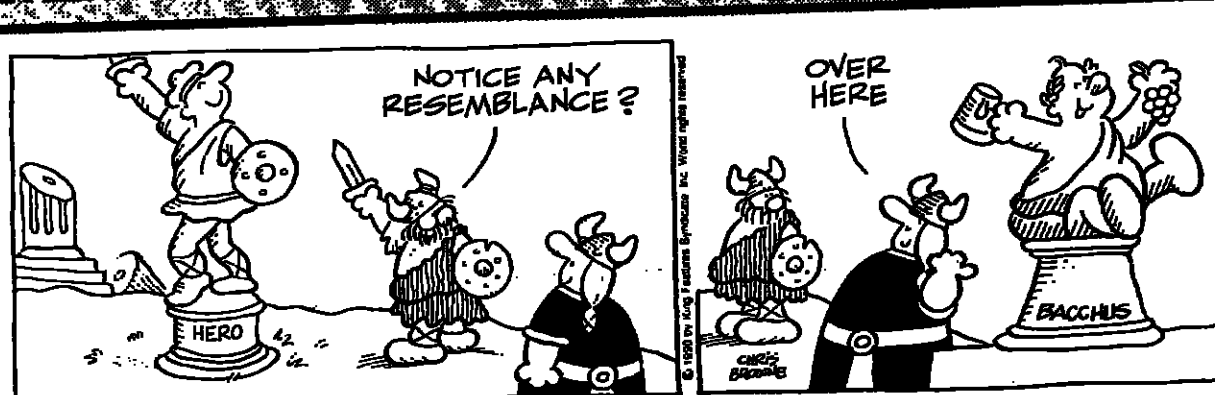
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



AGATHA CRUMM



BEETLE BAILEY



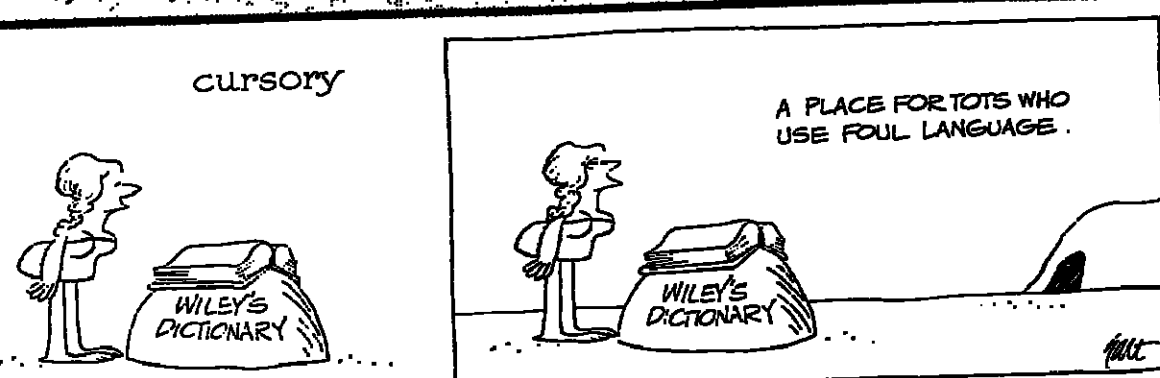
THE WIZARD OF ID



ANDY CAPP



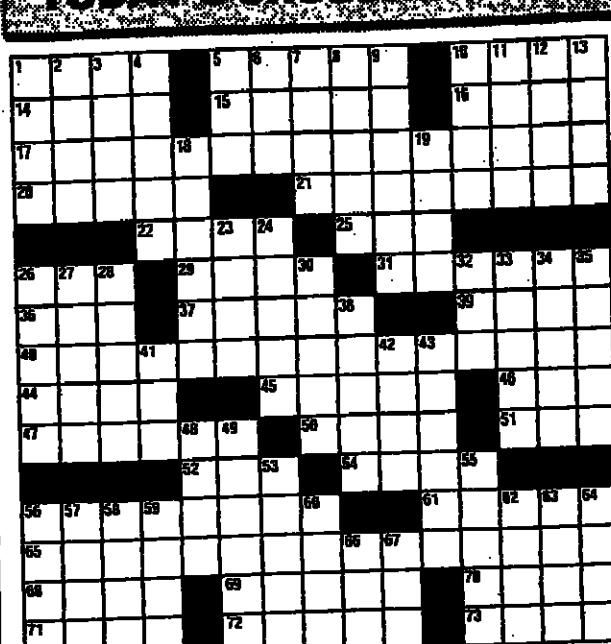
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Spill



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Masculine
 - Caudal appendages
 - New England composer
 - Food thickener
 - Firth of Clyde island
 - Kind of tide
 - Gideon Fell's creator
 - Concur
 - Successively
 - Fabric flaw, sometimes
 - Corded cloth
 - Man on the beat
 - "...baked in —"
 - Like cocktail nuts
 - Villain's cry
 - Standards
 - Crater contents
 - Philip Marlowe's creator
 - Popular cookie
 - 1954-1977 defense org.
 - "...Tu": Verdi aria
 - Range rope
 - Spirit
 - Opposite of ant.
 - Card game with a forfeit
 - Ending for dither
 - Delightful
 - Card game for three
 - Sam Spade's creator
 - As well
 - Lubricated
 - To — (precisely)
 - Actress Farrow et al.
 - Large quantities
 - Soprano Sylvia
- DOWN**
- Goys model
 - Awestruck
 - Bart the Oz lion
 - Sea eagles
 - Skater
 - Babylonia
 - Circumference segment
 - Annoys
 - Light producer
 - Sleeper's sounds
 - Cuzco Indian
 - parmigiana
 - Actor James — Jones
 - Nimble
 - Part of FDR
 - Basketry palm
 - Immediately after
 - Cardinals and cycles
 - December song
 - Mitchell heroine
 - He picks up the tab
 - Talk show host
 - Hon. deg.
 - The Vienna Woods are full of them?
 - Each without exception
 - "Mack the Knife" singer
 - Petroleum source
 - Miss Piggy's favorite word
 - "Pictures— Exhibition"
 - Sarge, e.g.
 - Jai —
 - Soliloquy starters
 - Fran's pal
 - Madame Bovary et al.
 - Eliot's Bede
 - Spanish surrealist
 - Mountain in Thessaly
 - Greek letters
 - Fitzgerald of jazz
 - Greek letter
 - Map abbreviations
 - Monaco summers
 - Haw's partner
 - Station-break features

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

WIELD APSE STAB
IDEE STYROP TERA
FETTUCCINI RITES
ENTERA MALLARDS
RIPE REATA
SCREAMS PRIZES
STAE BURSA ZAP
NECR MESHY PLISA
ETEC RADTO ERNES
EDISON EMBROID
AMATI BAAL
ALTERING STATUS
COOL SCALLOPINI
MORT SADIE SPIN
EKES ANSE ESTE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

POINT COUNTERPOINT

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

Q 7 5

8

A Q 10 9 7

A K 10 6

WEST

J

A J 10 9 7 6 4

6

Q J 9 4

EAST

10 6

K 5 2

8 4 3 2

8 7 5 2

SOUTH

A K 9 8 4 3 2

Q 3

K J 5

3

The bidding:

West North East South

4 Pass Pass Pass

Pass 6 Pass Pass

Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

There are some hands where only

an expert can go down! If you don't

believe us, study this deal from the

Masters' Pairs Championship more

than a quarter of a century ago and

see if you can work out how declar-

er, a nationally-ranked player, was

defeated in his spade slam after the

lead of the ace of hearts.

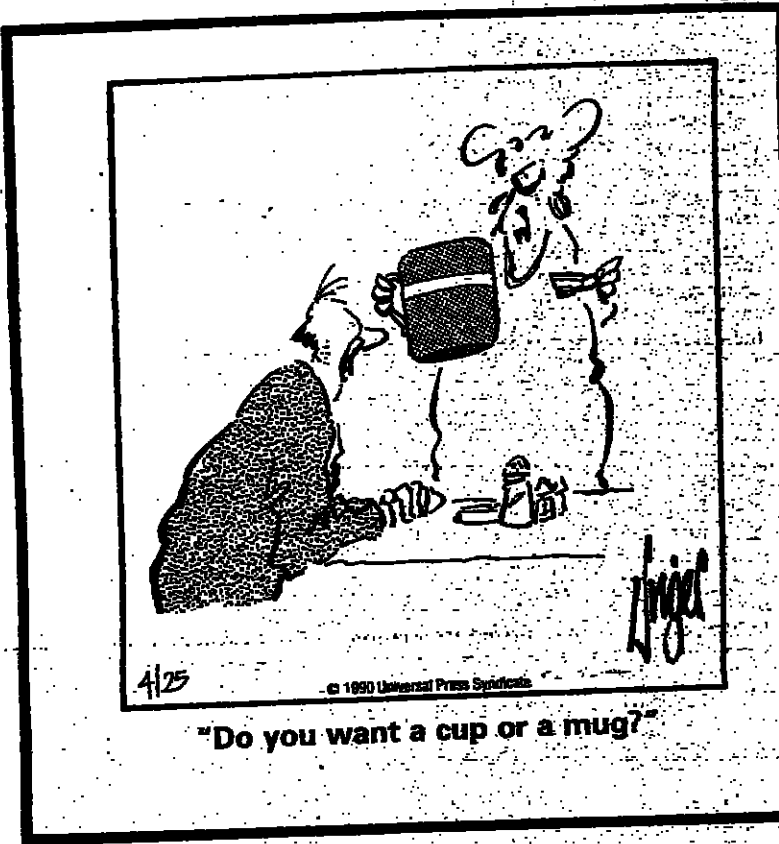
Certainly, you can't quibble with

the auction, unless you feel that North might have checked for aces in case his side could make a grand slam. When it comes to the play, however, you will have to make up your own mind.

West led the ace of hearts and East dropped the king! On the heart continuation, declarer took the precaution to ruff with dummy's queen and was taken back when East produced a second heart. Had declarer now claimed his contract, it is just possible the opponents would have conceded, but declarer's mind was working overtime.

Why had East falsecarded with the king of hearts? South concluded there could be only one explanation. East held all three missing trumps and was hoping to set up a trump trick for himself by inveigling declarer to ruff high.

Having worked that out, declarer was ready to produce his own brilliancy. He led a trump from the table and, when East produced the six, declarer confidently finessed the eight! The logic was almost irrefutable. Unfortunately, West won the trick with the jack—down one!



Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will not be in the best of mood so try to keep clear of controversy. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 26. Do not place much reliance on mechanical devices. You have plenty to do so do not allow yourself to be sidetracked. Be sensible.



Taurus

April 21 - May 20

Do not engage in negative reflections and do not let yourself be dominated by regret. Take care there is a danger of broken glass. Do not allow yourself to be tempted to do what you know you should not. Be polite.



Gemini

May 21 - June 20

There is nothing to be gained by postponing what has to be done sooner or later. So, overcome your reluctance and get it out of the way. If instead of taking advantage of someone else's error, you point it out you will earn a great deal of gratitude. Be sincere.



Cancer

June 21 - July 20

You are more prone to accidents so take special care for instance when crossing the road. Everything is taking longer so beware of wasting time or dissipating your energy. Make sure you are not late for an appointment. Be frank.



Leo

July 21 - Aug 21

Now is a good time to take the initiative but do head in the right direction. An offer or proposal is not as lucrative as it appears at first sight. Do not expect to get your way in all things. Be tactful.



Virgo

Aug 22 - Sept 22

What you had intended to do will no longer be possible. However do not be too disappointed, there will be other alternatives, almost as attractive. Continue learning and do not rest on your laurels. Be tolerant.



Libra

Sept 23 - Oct 22

If you show a little more goodwill you will be well rewarded. Avoid waste but do not be mean where essential repairs and maintenance are concerned. And make sure your family is well looked after before spending money on personal luxuries. Be cordial.



Scorpio

Oct 23 - Nov 22

If you try to do too many things all at the same time you will end up doing none of them well. You are all too liable to judge by appearances and should look a little deeper beneath the surface. Do not take too much for granted. Be punctual.



Sagittarius

Nov 23 - Dec 22

Beware of thinking that what you would like to be actually is. Always think well of others giving them every benefit of the doubt. You should not be offended by criticism instead respond to it. Be resolute.



Capricorn

Dec 23 - Jan 19

You will tend to have your head in the sky and should come a little more down to earth. And keep your wits about you allowing common sense to prevail. Do not think that only material things matter. Be helpful.



Aquarius

Jan 20 - Feb 19

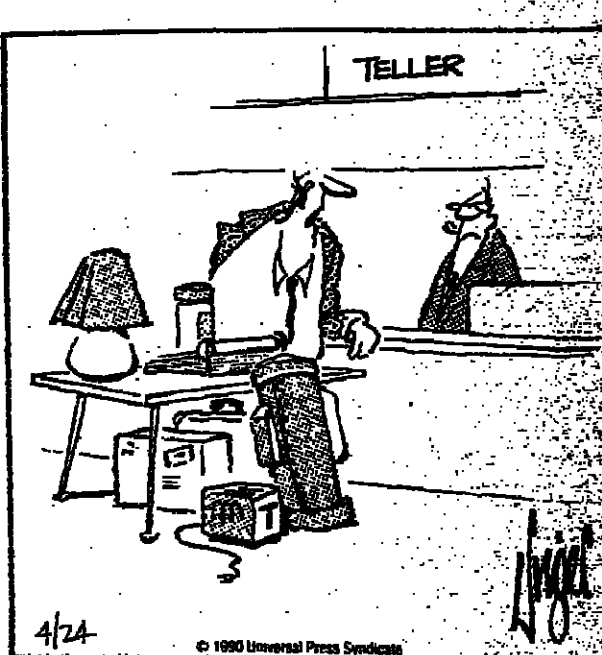
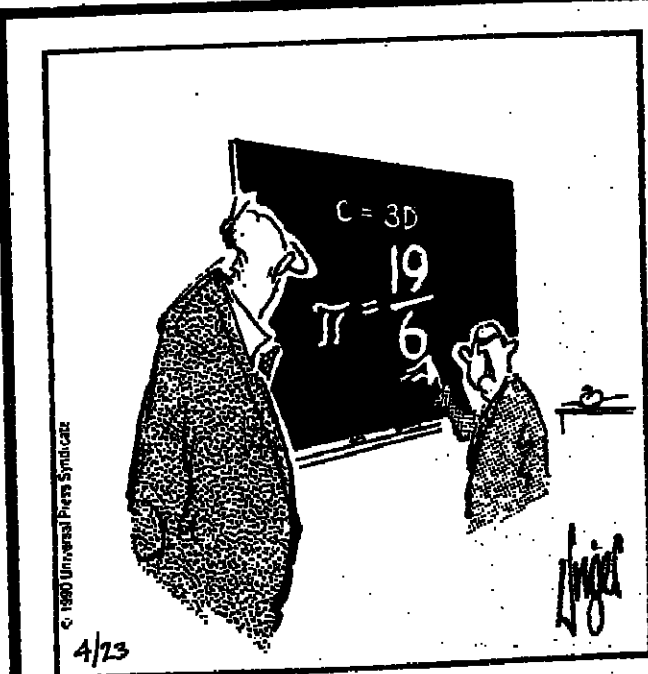
Avoid doing anything that you have good reason to think would make others suffer. Make sure you do not leave packing until the last minute when going on a journey. Rely more on facts less on guesswork. Be responsible.



Pisces

Feb 20 - March 20

You are rather too liable to exaggerate and should restrain yourself. Look on the funny side but do not make a joke out of a serious situation. Avoid jumping to conclusions and do not act on impulse either. Be generous.



Radiation technology to protect food

Dispelling misconceptions

By Clare Pedrick

GENEVA (WNL): Hiroshima, Chernobyl — the words conjure up a deadly cloud of radioactivity killing hundreds of thousands and making the land a forbidden desert for decades or more.

The fear of nuclear energy is rooted deep in people's heart, yet scientists and public health experts alike say that radiation technology can be safely and effectively used to protect the world's food supply. Next to the frozen food section, they argue, supermarkets should have an irradiated food section. Consumers would be able to buy potatoes that don't sprout, strawberries that aren't moldy and, perhaps most important, poultry and eggs with greatly reduced amounts of the toxic salmonella bacteria.

Food that is irradiated is exposed to carefully measured amounts of ionizing radiation, through X-rays, electron bombardment or gamma rays — the same rays that are used in radiotherapy to treat cancer patients.

"People think that the food itself becomes radioactive, but this is a gross misconception," said Dr Morton Satin, chief of the Agricultural Industries Service at the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Rome. "The radioactivity passes through, but the only thing that absorbs it is the enzyme that gets destroyed. In the case of a potato, it's the enzyme that causes it to sprout prematurely. It's the same for meats that contain salmonella."

Food irradiation is not a new idea. Research began back in the 1940s and more than a thousand scientific studies have been completed. After studying the results of some of those studies, experts at the FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) say that the technique is not only safe but that it should be positively encouraged as a way of treating certain foods to wipe out two serious threats like food spoilage and food-borne, potentially fatal, illness.

In spite of such endorsements, the issue remains a controversial one. So far, no country has begun irradiating food on anything like a wide commercial scale. In the developing world, governments have given the go-ahead in Bangladesh, India, Thailand, Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay. The Soviet Union and several Eastern European states are also using the process to treat some foodstuffs. But among the Western industrialized nations there has been a widespread reluctance to introduce the technology.

France is the most advanced, using irradiation to decontaminate chicken used in the food-processing industry. The United States has authorized irradiation



Scientists say the irradiation of foodstuff would guarantee potatoes that would not sprout and disease-free chickens.

for poultry, fruits, vegetables, pork, wheat and herbs and spices, but advocates of irradiated foods have met strong consumer resistance. Australia, New Zealand, Britain, Switzerland, West Germany and Sweden have banned irradiation of domestically produced foodstuffs and will not import irradiated products.

At the WHO headquarters in Geneva, Dr Fritz Kaferstein, manager of the Food Safety Unit, blames the resistance on the emotionalism of an inadequately informed public. "People have very deep-seated fears when it comes to nuclear power, and research shows it all goes back to Hiroshima," he said. "Chernobyl reconfirmed many people's opinions that you cannot trust this type of technology. In fact, food irradiation has nothing, but nothing, to do with Chernobyl, but this distinction is not made."

"We are satisfied it is safe," he continued. "We have done our homework and we are concerned that this technology is being rejected out of hand, regardless of the enormous benefits it could bring to mankind."

One of the most dramatic applications of food irradiation, proponents argue, is in preventing food-borne diseases that kill thousands of people each year in developing and developed countries alike, as well as costing millions of dollars in medical bills and loss of worktime. In a recent joint report the FAO and the WHO stated that illness caused by contaminated food is perhaps the most widespread health problem in modern-day society.

Those in favour of irradiation claim that it kills contaminants in foodstuffs, thus making products safer for public consumption. "In almost all industrialized countries poultry meat is up to 100 per cent contaminated with salmonella," said Dr Kaferstein. "Of course, we do not eat raw chicken, but we have to handle it, season it, use a knife to cut it. Consumers are not microbiologists and do not realize how easy it is to cross-contaminate other foods that will not be cooked. If one bacterial cell reaches a piece of food, then in half a day it will multiply into 10 million cells. That's when you get food poisoning, and in the case of the old, the very young and people who are already ill, it can kill."

Eggs are another major risk area. A salmonella strain has found its way into the egg-laying flocks of many industrialized nations during the past few years. In the United Kingdom almost 100 per cent of the eggs are contaminated. Dr Kaferstein says that irradiating the eggs would eliminate the bacteria.

In developing countries irradiation could help reduce food shortages by reducing the amount of spoilage. According to the FAO, between one quarter and one third of the world's entire food production is lost to pests, fungus and bacteria. In tropical countries, where high temperatures and high humidity create special problems in storing food, the figure may be 50 per cent or higher. China alone loses 80 million tonnes of grain each year in post-harvest spoilage.

"Just think of the impact food irradiation could have on helping a country like China, which has one billion mouths to feed," said Dr Kaferstein. "It's a technology that could also help developing countries expand their export markets and increase their earning possibilities," he added. "Food irradiation prolongs shelf-life, so it would enable countries producing tropical fruits and vegetables to reduce their losses and perhaps choose a cheaper method of transport. Pineapples, mangoes and papaya from West Africa and South America could be transported by boat instead of being flown in. It would also mean that customers in the receiving countries would have these products at a lower price."

Food experts also point out that irradiation would benefit tropical countries whose food exports are currently banned by some industrialized nations because of suspected contamination. "Prawns produced in tropical climates are quite frequently contaminated with bacteria such as salmonella," said Dr Kaferstein. "If the prawns were irradiated, countries like Bangladesh and Thailand could export far more. Of course, the rich importing countries have got to accept food irradiation before they can expect the developing countries to commit themselves to the investment."

Food irradiation is certainly an expensive business, at least in the initial stages. But studies by officials from FAO, WHO and the International Atomic Energy Association say the high costs would be more than offset by the savings from reduced losses and spoilage of foodstuffs.

All three organizations stress the need for adequate training of personnel and strict controls on the use of irradiation equipment. "There are plenty of developing countries, such as India, China, Malaysia, Thailand and Brazil, which are very well organized and would be perfectly capable of dealing with technologies like this," said Dr Kaferstein. "There are others, especially those caught up in the middle of civil wars, where I would hesitate to suggest any kind of sophisticated technology."

Opponents of irradiation, led by a British consumer group, the London Food Commission, complain that the process could be used to mask the quality of food that is already past its prime and that consumers would have no guarantee that the product they are buying has been treated.

The London group also claims that irradiation causes vitamin losses. True, says Dr Kaferstein, but so does every other form of food preservation and storage — and potatoes that have begun to sprout have virtually no vitamins left at all.



Stephen North as glib young fireman Colin Parish.

London's Burning

And the reluctant fireman panics

By Laura Zackon

AS SMOKE billowed out of the old people's home, firemen bustled about... running out hoses and checking to see whether anyone was still inside. Angry, they kept brushing past the fresh-faced youngster in the brand-new uniform who didn't appear to know his hip from his hydrant.

It was only when the blaze was doused that the reluctant firefighter was able to introduce himself. He was actor Stephen North, wide-eyed recruit to the hit TV series *London's Burning*.

Stephen, who plays 19-year-old green recruit Colin Parish, told me: "All of us on the show do two weeks training with the Fire Brigade and then go out to an actual station for two night shifts."

"I was at Peckham, in South East London, when the alarm bell sounded. We raced over to the old folks home, where there was a blazing fire in one of the sitting rooms."

"The lads set to work with their usual efficiency. But, for me, it was quite scary. I was in my fire gear and looked just like the real thing. I was afraid people would think, 'What's he doing just standing around?'"

"For a moment, I was expecting a real firefighter to grab hold of me and push me into the smoke and flames. You see, men from different stations often attend the same fire, and they wouldn't recognise everyone there. So they could easily have taken me for a Peckham fireman."

"I was privileged to be at the fire anyway. The station officer had taken me along on the call out of the kindness of his heart, so that I could see some real-life action."

"After my stint with the brigade, I can tell you very definitely that one of the last things I want to be is a fireman. It's not only the danger, but the really tough and academic training course they have to do."

"In the series, I play a greener-than-green recruit who is constantly bewildered by what is happening around him. And, when I went to the fire brigade's training centre in Southwark, South East London, I saw plenty of lads just like Colin."

Stephen, who is really 25, went on: "So many of them have this real fixation about joining the brigade. Most of them have wanted to be a fireman for years, and it takes them a year to get in after they first apply."

"These men consider it a great honour to be accepted for training as a fireman. It's a very hard course, which lasts for 20 weeks. It isn't all running up and down ladders, either. Recruits have to do loads of academic stuff."

"And they have to learn how every piece of complicated equipment works. You can't be thick if you want to be in the Fire Brigade."

Stephen finds it easy to look a little boy lost when he is on the set of *London's Burning*. Because it is his first-ever television part.

Relaxing between takes at the show's studio, Stephen told me: "I was amazed when I landed the role of Colin. Before that, my only practical experience of acting had been touring schools with a group who acted out a little play explaining the evils of drinking and driving."

"I got the part because the show's casting director had seen me in the graduation play at Guildford Drama School in Surrey. A year later, when this part came up, she remembered me and gave me a ring."

"I went to do a reading for her and landed the part straight away. As a raw beginner, I know how recruit Colin must feel."

He told me: "I was never very ambitious and I had never aimed to be on television. I became interested in acting because my mother used to take me to the theatre a lot when I was younger."

"And out of that, I decided I really only wanted to be a theatre actor. Without wanting to sound pretentious, I have always preferred the 'arty' side of acting. I just enjoy performing to a live audience."

"I hadn't expected this part in *London's Burning* at all, and I certainly wasn't angling for it. I was aiming to get into repertory theatre. I didn't even have an agent until a few weeks ago."

"But now I'm here, I think it's brilliant. I'm really glad I'm doing it. Television is such a difficult thing to get into, I realise I'm incredibly lucky to have been given a break like this."

He went on: "I'm used to theatre acting and, at first, I found television very hard work. You have to scale everything right down for the camera, and be very natural. In the theatre you have to make everything larger-than-life."

"So I became very aware of what I was doing. I used to tense up quite a lot and worry that my face was twitching. Whenever the director said, 'Close up on Steve', I'd panic."

"The worst moment was when I did a scene where I had to break down and cry. In the theatre, you would be doing it every night. And, some nights, the tears would come and, on other nights, they might not. And if you can't cry properly, you can always fake it."

"But on television you can't get away with it. I was really nervous about that scene, and everyone was there to watch."

Give your pet a dog's life

YOUR faithful hound could be terrified of cats, jealous of babies or sexually attracted to cushions... and all because his mother neglected him when he was a puppy. Dogs are complex creatures, deeply influenced by what happens to them before they are three months old.

A traumatic puppyhood experience can result in a lifetime of embarrassing anti-social behaviour. Worse, if the owner has bad habits, he can turn a naturally aggressive dog into a killing machine — or a big softie into a timid, floor-wetting wimp.

But there are ways to nurture the perfect relationship between man (or woman) and beast. By learning to think like a dog, you can enjoy the pleasure of canine companionship without any of the pain.

TV vet Dr Bruce Fogle, who knows more than most about what goes on in the mind of man's best friend, has devoted years to dog-watching at his London practice and learned still more by sharing his house with two boisterous golden retrievers named Liberty and Lexington.

He is convinced dogs and people make an ideally matched double act — as long as they respect each other.

Bruce was suffering from a cold ("I think I caught it from a schauzer") when we met in his warm, well-scrubbed surgery. Between sneezes, he told me: "Dogs share many human characteristics and that's undoubtedly why we've chosen them as our closest companions through the centuries."



Who are you calling dog-breath? Dr Bruce Fogle and Edwin the boxer, a family friend, exchange pleasantries.

Frances Hubbard talks to TV vet Bruce Fogle to explain the basic rules of what can be an 'ideally matched double act'

"The dog is a pack animal, as we are. He likes strong leadership in the same sense as we admire powerful authority figures. And he keeps his youthful playfulness throughout life."

"That's why even old dogs love to gambol about and fetch sticks, and why we love to oblige by throwing them. It's perfect partnership."

"Also, both humans and dogs are social species. There's no effective difference between a man going to the pub to meet his mates and a dog going to the park to sniff his friends' bottoms. Each is making social contact in his own way."

"Another reason dogs have done well as pets in their ability to adapt to almost any lifestyle. They'll happily sleep by the campfire or on the sofa. And they're as eager to eat tinned food as they are to tear the flesh off a rabbit. Dogs are great opportunists."

But some dogs adjust too easily to the good life. Fat, cosseted poodles and pugs are more than just cartoon clichés. They exist, though no fault of their own — as the spoiled darlings of besotted owners.

Many people treat their animals as favourite surrogate children, rewarding them with tit-bits every time they perform a trick or look appealing.

"Overweight dogs are usually a man-made problem," said Bruce. "I have to convince the owners it's his own fault if Rover is tubby. After all, no dog gets fat unless it's overfed and no dog gets overfed unless it's given too much to eat."

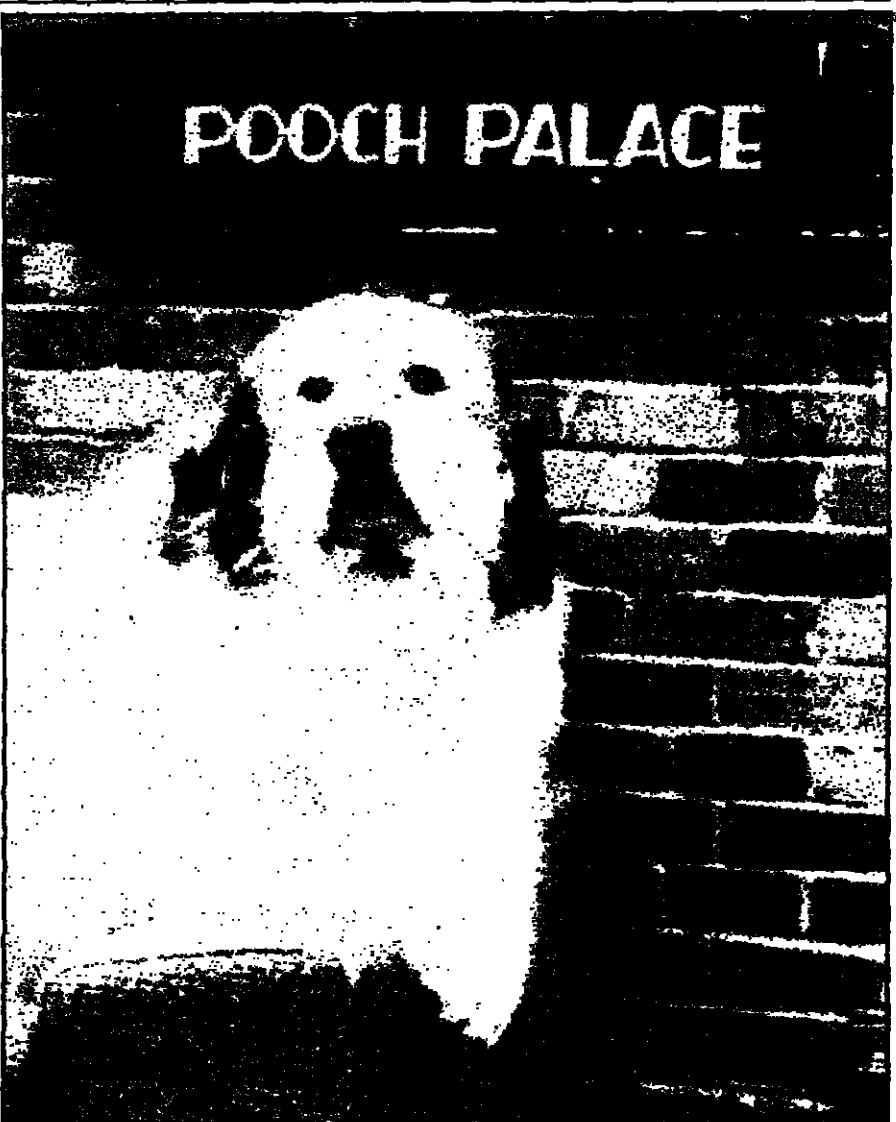
"Yet people can be very huffy if I suggest cutting back on their dog's chokey drops. They think I'm a kill-joy who wants to deprive their pet of a harmless pleasure, or that I'm criticising their way of life."

"I think there's a strong case for all vets taking a course in human psychology, just to help them understand owners — and how their behaviour affects pets."

Every week, Bruce sees bemused people who bring in canine delinquents they bought six months earlier as docile puppies. Many owners are unprepared for the reality of living with their animals.

"Some people have a Walt Disney image of dogs," he said. "Then they're horrified when their lovely, fluffy pets want to roll in horse manure or do various other disgusting things Disney never mentioned."

"I'm not saying we shouldn't form close emotional attachments to our dogs, just emphasising that they're a different species



Some owners forget their pets are dogs and not another person. This pooch has his own throne in his own palace.

and we can't expect them to behave in the same way we do."

"For example, if a dog wants to eat rabbit droppings, that is perfectly natural behaviour to him. A dog is essentially a scavenger who has to find nourishment where he can. It's a throwback to his wolf ancestry."

If it is wrong to judge dogs according to human standards of good taste, it is also wrong to assume they have human emotions such as jealousy, fear or loneliness?

"Well, I tend to do it myself," admitted Bruce. "It's pretty well documented that dogs do get jealous — of people who distract their master's attention, and of other dogs. I think they can be sad."

"I see nothing wrong with projecting those sort of feelings on to your dog if it helps you to identify with him. The danger is when we forget that dogs are, in fact, dogs and not people."

"I mean, you can't just say your Doberman is a bit grumpy this morning and leave it at that. A grumpy Doberman is potentially lethal and it has to be disciplined."

"Some big, aggressive defence-and-attack dogs, like Dobermanns and Rott-

weillers, have been bred to have dominant personalities. Unless they're told exactly who's boss, they'll try to take over the owner. Obviously that causes problems — just read the papers."

"With those breeds in particular, you should respect dogs for what they are and not treat them as honorary humans. By all means, recognise that the animal is bored — but treat the problem on his terms."

"Take him for a walk, play with him, give him something to do. Otherwise, you'll come home and find he's dug a hole in the sofa or attacked the postman."

Bruce's latest book *The Dog's Mind* gives further insights into canine behaviour, starting from before a puppy's birth....

Male pups are "masculinised" by a surge of the hormone testosterone while they are still in the womb. This gives them a bias towards dominant sexual behaviour and improves their chances of breeding.

It is also the reason male pups tend to mount everything from each other to visitor's knees. They are obeying the directions given by the testosterone and limbering up for later life.



'London's Burning' newcomer Stephen North on the set of the hit TV show.

Python star Terry Jones' idea of hell 'Just be funny'

By Laura Zackon

WHAT does it take to intimidate a man who has conquered the world as a member of the Monty Python team and directed a hit movie like *Personal Services*? The answer — a bunch of schoolkids!

"It's true," says Terry Jones, quaking at the memory. "My most frightening experience was going to a meeting of a school's film club. I was expecting a small group sitting around a table but when I arrived, I found a theatre full of kids and it turned into a performance."

"I had to tell them the story of my life, a situation I wouldn't normally allow myself to get into. I was terrified!"

He doesn't mind facing a clutch of Hollywood moguls to raise money for a new film but the comedy actor-director hates just "being himself" in public.

"People quickly find they are mistaken when they expect me to be a funny person," he told me. "The worst thing is when I'm invited to a 'do' and told, 'oh, you don't have to do anything — just come along and be funny!'"

Perhaps that's why he spends so much time alone writing poetry. His latest collection, *The Curse of the Vampire's Socks* (Puffin Books £2.50), has just been published. It contains such Pythonesque items as *The Grimble-Whizzer Tree*, *The Sewer Kangaroo* and *A New Attempt on the World Rhyming Championship Record*.

Sipping a glass of white wine in the garden of his elegant London home, Terry told me: "I wish I knew where the ideas for these poems came from. It would be a lot easier for me to write them if I did know."

"But on the other hand, I have this fear that if I did ever find out where I get inspiration from, things might become a little predictable. So I think I'm almost afraid of discovering the reasons behind it all."

"Poetry was my first love. From the age of six I was convinced I was going to be a poet. But it was a bit serious in those days. The first poem I ever wrote was called *Prairie Fires*, when I was six-and-a-half. It was, as the title suggests, all about fires on the prairie. Gaud knows why!"

Many of the poems in his collection have an ecological message but Terry plays it that down. "It makes it easier to write if there's a subject behind it, rather than just being about nothing," he said dismissively.

"But it's like anything you do your own preoccupation come out. I wasn't setting out to write a Green book, but the poems just reflect what was on my mind."

"I pay my subscriptions to Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth. But I don't go to meetings. I suppose I should but life's too short for all that."

Terry is a cult figure with film buffs because he directed *The Life of Brian* but his most recent movie, *Erik the Viking*, was passed by the critics and failed to make any impression at the box office.

"It's a curious thing about that film," he said. "In a few years' time, people will look at it and think it's a classic. Obviously I was baffled and annoyed that the British critics didn't like it."

"We had already had a couple of screenings before the critics saw it and those showings were great. The audiences were cheering and clapping all the way through."

"But then we had a critics' showing. I arrived at the cinema and the film has already been going for about 20 minutes."

"It was the scene where the hero of the film was saying goodbye to all the women of his village, who were all crying. And every time he said something, the women cried even more. It's a funny little scene and I think it plays fine."

"But I walked into the screening room and it was like an icebox. There was absolute hostility. If I had nothing to do with the film and had seen it for the first time with that audience, I would have hated it. Nothing was working."

"Erik the Viking is basically a children's film, a fairytale. But I think a lot of people, particularly those critics, went to see it expecting it to be a Python movie, especially because John Cleese is in it."

"With Python, we were saying, 'Don't suspend your disbelief at any point. Remain critical and see what we're getting at.'"

"But *Erik the Viking* is a fairytale and, of course, you have to suspend your disbelief in order to go along with the fantasy. The critics weren't doing that and were obviously trying to figure out what I was trying to say. They were thinking about it too much."

Terry, who originally wrote *The Saga of Erik the Viking* for his son Bill, says he loves what he does so much he can't tell the difference between work and play.

"I know it doesn't seem like I get any spare but in a way it's difficult to divide it. I enjoy what I'm doing, so it doesn't feel like work. I think I'm wonderfully lucky."

"I always wanted to write and act and I never had any desire to do anything else. I came to the end of my time at grammar school and the only possibility I could see for me to do the things I liked was to teach. I went up to university reconciled to becoming a teacher."

"Then one afternoon I remember getting very agitated about something somebody had written about something else had written about the poet Milton."

"I suddenly thought, 'Why are we all getting so angry about this? I really don't want to be writing about other people's work. I'd rather be producing the stuff in the first place.'"

So how did Terry the writer and performer become a film director? "I started directing because Mike Palin and I became used to writing stuff that wouldn't end up as we'd imagined it," he said.

"Eventually we realised it was important to have control over all the different stages of production."

"And now I think I would get very bored if I was just acting in something. When I did *Personal Services*, I became a bit bored because I was only directing it. I still enjoy performing but I'm the only director who offers me a part!"

Terry's wife Alison is a scientist and they have two children, Sally, 16, and Bill, 13.

He said: "I wouldn't have any ambitions for them. It's up to them to have their own. Sally wants to open up a show shop. She's very keen on design and wants to sell her creations. And Bill hasn't made up his mind yet."

"But it's wonderful because they're really good friends, they get on so well. Bill's terribly easy-going, he hardly ever gets angry and Sally is very funny. They really love each other."

At the moment Terry is working on a new screenplay, *Mirrorman*. He said: "I spent four weeks working on it and then I went off to Japan to promote *Erik the Viking*. The trouble was, I had no ending for *Mirrorman*."

"Now I've come back, I've gone right back to the beginning of it and I'm rewriting the whole thing. It's a comedy about a man whose reflection comes alive. You never know, I might decide in a couple of weeks that I don't like it and that it won't get anywhere."

Terry Jones writer, actor, director, cult figure can afford to change his mind.



Terry Jones, the ex-Python who hates 'being himself' in public.

Heart-op girl On her toes

By Faith Mail

THE pretty fair-haired girl in the ballet class looks like any other young dancer with stars in her eyes. Her long hair is swept up in a top knot and her graceful body moves in time to the music.

But above the neckline of her leotard, a vivid pink scar is visible. The mark which runs along the left side of her body down to her hip is a legacy of a life-saving operation.

Last October brave 10-year-old Amanda Hartley underwent a four-hour operation but her love of ballet helped her to recover in record time.

Within three months of the operation, the plucky youngster from Bradford, Yorkshire, was up and about and taking some very important ballet exams.

She passed with flying colours and is now well on her way to becoming the next Royal Ballet star.

"I want to be another Dame Margot Fonteyn," says the courageous youngster. As she says this, a look of determination comes into her eyes — the same kind of determination she has shown over the last few years but continuing to dance despite health problems.

Amanda is a remarkable child. She was born with a massive hole in her heart and her parents could only pray that she would live long enough for surgeons to operate. Mother Pam remembers: "Amanda was a sickly child but it wasn't until she was 18 months old that doctors realised just how bad her heart problem was."

"She started to go slightly blue. Her finger, toes and mouth changed colour and she couldn't walk without gasping for breath. She became very lethargic and our doctor advised us to see a specialist."

Pam and husband Brian have five other children. They are a close loving family who are proud of the plucky youngster. "Amanda is an adored younger child and we all dote on her," says Pam.

The family live in a neat terraced house on the outskirts of Bradford. Pam, a lively Liverpudlian, was shocked when the doctor suggested seeing a specialist.

"I was expecting my younger daughter at the time and kept hoping that Amanda wasn't as sick as the doctors thought," she told me.

"The day Brian and I went to Killingbeck hospital in Leeds, I was so nervous that I had butterflies in my stomach."

The specialist carried out tests on Amanda and found the hole in the heart had become larger, her main pulmonary artery had narrowed and the fallot tubes — that feed the heart with oxygen — were damaged.

"They said the only way they could save Amanda was by operating on her," said Pam "when she was three, they repaired the hole in the heart, widened the main artery and patched the damaged fibres."

"I was delighted and thought that at last my little girl was alright and could start living a normal life."

But within a year Amanda was back in hospital because her condition had deteriorated yet again. This time doctors discovered a blockage around the muscle surrounding the aorta.

"They told us they could do no more for Amanda and she was dying and not to worry because her condition wasn't that bad," said Pam.

They were wrong. A year later Amanda's health was so critical that she became an emergency and was admitted to hospital twice.

It was also during this time that Amanda became interested in ballet. According to Pam, the child saw a ballet production on TV and said she wanted to be a dancer.

Pam told me: "Amanda and I were watching a production of *Swan Lake* and she said 'Mummy I want to be like those pretty ladies. So I said 'Once you're well, then you can be'."

"I think it was at this point that I saw a change in her and she became quite determined to get well. She stopped complaining and began to take her medicine. She also started looking forward to going to hospital and she began taking her dancing lessons at a local dance school."

Each day as Amanda's body became more starved of oxygen, her will to live and become a dancer only increased. Doctors agreed to operate on her last October but only gave her a 75 per cent chance of surviving.

The plucky child underwent five hours of surgery at Killingbeck hospital and a week later doctors knew it was a success because she was back on her feet and ready to dance.

"It was funny to see her in this way because she seemed unaffected by the trauma of having a life-saving operation," said Pam. "She had a big scar on her body where the surgeons had cut her open and was attached to all sorts of machinery that was keeping her alive, but all she could think about was dancing."

Brian and I couldn't believe just how courageous she was and how important dancing was to her. Her little sister Diane was preparing for her dancing exams and Amanda said that she wanted to take her exams at the same time but, to be honest, we never thought she would be able to."

However, they hadn't counted on Amanda making a quick recovery and dancing again. She put in extra hours of practice and her dance tutor agreed to let her Grade One ballet exams, satisfied that the heart-op girl had reached a high enough standard to pass, which she did three months later.

"She worked so hard for her exams that we were overjoyed when she passed," Pam told me. "I think her love of dancing kept her going and gave her the strength to make such a remarkable recovery. We're ever so proud of her — she's a real fighter."



Amanda wants to be another Dame Margot Fonteyn.

Chinese seek tourist earnings Backpackers unwanted

By James Kynge

CHENGDU, China. (Reuters). China will soon relax restrictions on tourism in the Himalayan region of Tibet but budget backpackers, accused of inciting rebellion there in the past, will remain barred, officials say.

Drawn by the recent lifting of martial law in the capital, Lhasa, scores of backpackers on shoestring budgets have begun filling cheap accommodation in this southwestern China city, dubbed by some travellers as "the gateway to the roof of the world."

And even before the new rules have been announced, semi-official travel agents here are assuring tourists of their skills in twisting, bending and circumventing any legislation the central government can throw at them.

"In China there are two types of law — one is the central government's law and the other is the provinces' interpretation of it," said the boss of one semi-official travel agency.

"No, I'm wrong," he continued. "I remember now, there are plenty of laws but only if you have no money."

A senior tourism official in Chengdu, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a rule that only groups of three or more people could travel to Tibet would be scrapped and individuals would soon be allowed to go.

But they would have to be on a package tour with a guide and a strict itinerary, the official said.



The Dalai Lama is regarded as god-king by Tibetan Buddhists.

Martial law was imposed in Lhasa on March 8, 1989, after riots for Tibetan independence from China in which police shot dead 50 Tibetans. It was the most serious of several outbreaks of anti-Chinese unrest since 1987.

After the riot, China accused foreigners of inciting rebellion and singled out a Dutch woman accused of smuggling in a banned book by Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

China says it has ruled Tibet since the 13th century but many Tibetans and the Dalai Lama, who fled his homeland before an armed Chinese intervention in 1959, dispute this.

The Dalai Lama, still regarded as a god-king by Tibetan Buddhists, was awarded the Nobel peace prize last year for his "non-violent" struggle for Tibetan independence.

About 3,600 tourists visited Tibet in 1989, a sharp drop from the peak year of 1987 when 43,000, 65 per cent of them budget backpackers, journeyed to one of the most remote parts of the world.

This year tourist authorities are hoping that 12,000 guests will pay an officially recommended price of \$800 for a four-day, three-night stay in Lhasa.

"We want fewer but higher-paying guests than before," said the tourist official. "The backpackers spend almost nothing, stay for a long time and stir up the Tibetans against us. We definitely do not want them."

Tibet is portrayed in tourist literature as a "land of snows" where foreigners may witness Buddhist monks spinning prayer wheels or intoning ancient scriptures in the quiet recesses of monasteries.

It is also a playground for mountaineers attempting the highest mountains in the world, including Everest.

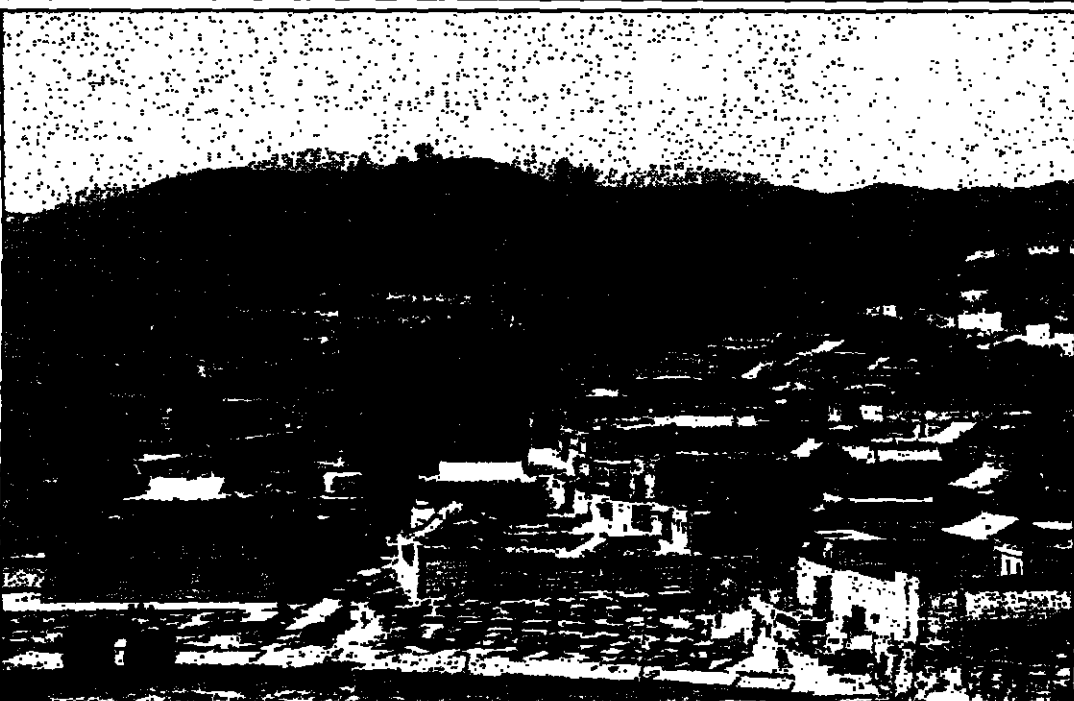
Many backpackers newly arrived Chengdu said Tibet held an exquisite mystique, derived from its isolation from the world through centuries under the theocratic rule of successive Dalai Lamas, each believed to be a reincarnation of his predecessor.

"The Chinese have raped Tibet," said a backpacker from New York. "The Chinese have no right to stop us going there because Tibet is not China, it is Tibet."

The backpacker, like other budget travellers living in an airless, underground air-raided shelter now converted into the "Black Coffee" Guest House, said he had made for Chengdu when he heard martial law had been lifted.

Workers at several semi-official travel agencies, the China International Travel Service, the Chengdu China Travel Service, Golden Bridge Travel, the China Travel Service and others said the end of martial law would bring them more business.

Some were offering four-day trips to Lhasa for \$700 and one said he would be able to arrange an overland trip by bus from the northwestern city of Xining for backpackers for \$300.



The famous Ta'er Lamasery in Tibet.

FAMILY DOCTOR By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

By Dr Allan Bruckheim

Set reasonable exercise goals, than stick to them

QUESTION: I have never been one with a zest for athletics or exercise, but with the articles about the benefits to be gained from a measure of physical fitness, I've tried to get into it. Although I purchased a home exercise machine and bought all the accepted clothes, I find, that, for a third time, my best intentions have led me nowhere. I want to get this thing going and will try one last time. I hope you may have some advice to help me make this time a success story. How about it?

ANSWER: If ever I could relate to the problems presented by a reader in a question, this is certainly true of your example. Actually, I think there are more of us than those muscular specimens, or the dedicated marathoners who can overcome the obstacles, and achieve a level of fitness we can only dream about.

But there is help for those who are confirmed couch potatoes, and there is a richness of rewards to be gathered if we can get a few things in order and develop a plan that has merit. In your case, the first step is to reflect on past failures and try to discover what went wrong. Then make a determined effort to change those elements that caused you to abandon your activity, so they don't interfere this time around.

Apparently your equipment wasn't much fun, so this time choose activity that can enjoy. Walking,

roller skating and swimming often can accomplish just as much as a workout as an expensive apparatus, and may be easier for you to complete. It is essential that you choose a time for exercise that has no or few conflicts with other schedules.

QUESTION: My fingernails have a most peculiar line growing across them from side to side. It looks as though my old nails are being replaced by another nail growing up over them. What caused this condition, and is it something serious that I must now worry about?

ANSWER: As with most questions like this one, I really wish I could see the condition. However, your description may give me enough to work with. Nail deformities can be caused by many factors, nutritional, infectious and even work. But if you recently suffered a severe illness, I may have the answer for you. In some circumstances, where disease temporarily interferes with nail growth, like a severe infection or heart attack, the nail begins to grow again after a period of no growth, creating the picture you describe. They are called "Beau's lines" and form this peculiar ridge across the nail.

Certainly there is no need for worry or anxiety. As your nails continue to grow, the ridge will be pushed forward and out, and your nails will return to their former look.

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TOYOTA Corolla GT, 1986, hat-
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tion, KD 1,425. Tel: 2433742,
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(AT6-53064-3)

TOYOTA Corona model 84, fully
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(AT6-53165-3)

TOYOTA Crown Supersalon,
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BMW 316, 1982 model,
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MAZDA 626, 1983 first registered
in 1984, manual, 5 gears, excellent
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Owner leaving Kuwait. KD650
ono. Tel: 5720133 or 5721077 ext
27 after 2.30 pm. Mr Snow.
(AT1-53132-3)

VOLVO 240 GL, 1985, automatic,
white in good condition. KD 1,150
ono. Tel: 3719522, 4-6 pm.
(AT6-53166-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant GLS, 1987, in
excellent condition, registered up
to March 1991. KD 1,500. Tel:
3714364, 4-6 pm only.
(AT6-53196-3)

TOYOTA Corolla GT twin-cam
16 Sports 1984, manual, new AC
and tyres in excellent condition.
KD1,000 cash. Tel: Umesh,
4736222 after 2 pm, 5611597 after
6 pm.
(AT1-53150-2)

BMW 316, 1982 model,
automatic, KD750. Tel: 3727676,
from 5 - 7 pm only.
(AT6-53184-3)

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and tyres in excellent condition.
KD1,000 cash. Tel: Umesh,
4736222 after 2 pm, 5611597 after
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Notes and instruments provided.
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return to Abbasiya at 8 pm. Tel:
4334905, Gabriel.
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Mohantlal from Kuwait Airport at
arrival wing on 12.6.90 evening.
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SPORTS

Cameroon can play even better at World Cup, says coach

FASANO, Italy, June 16. (Reuter): Cameroon's Soviet-born manager Valery Nepomniachy believes the world has yet to see the best of his giant-killing side.

"After the Argentina match I thought we had more to give. After Romania I'm convinced we have

more to give," Nepomniachy said yesterday.

Cameroon have turned the World Cup upside down with the unlikely blend of a Soviet manager plucked from obscurity, a 38-year-old in semi-retirement and maybe even a little witchcraft.

The 500-1 outsiders at the start of the finals beat Romania 2-1 on Thursday to become the first side to reach the second round, proving their 1-0 victory over champions Argentina in their first Group B match was no fluke.

"Half our players did not play as

well as they can," Nepomniachy said as the team relaxed at their hilltop retreat in the southern Italian town of Fasano.

"If we go further, we'll try to find a way to play just as well again... if we get to the final, I won't complain."

The 'Lions', who have never lost at

the World Cup finals, have struck a huge blow for soccer in Africa and for the underdog — forcing one London bookmaker to slash the odds against them winning the Cup to 25-1.

They drew all their matches in their only other World Cup appearance in Spain in 1982, going out because they

scored fewer goals than Italy.

"It's a great injustice that only two African teams can play at this World Cup," Nepomniachy said. "I think Africa has not yet reached its peak but it's well on the way."

Nepomniachy, 46, took over from Frenchman Claude Leroy as

Cameroon coach in November 1988.

From the mostly desert republic of Turkmenia where he coached the regional youth team, Nepomniachy brought a touch of Soviet discipline which included telling players to eat less.

Spain get second chance

UDINE, June 16. (Reuter): Spain and South Korea, both with their backs firmly against the wall, have everything to prove when they meet in their second Group E match tomorrow.

The Spaniards have to demonstrate — above all, to themselves — that a poor showing against Uruguay did not reflect their true potential, while for the Koreans tomorrow's game is make-or-break.

"If we want to have any hopes of getting through the first round, we must win the next game at all costs," manager Lee Hoe-Taik said at the South Koreans' new seaside base south of Udine.

Still fuming at the errors which handed Belgium a 2-0 victory in South Korea's opening game, Lee has threatened wholesale changes in his lineup.

Goalkeeper Choi In-Young, whose dash out of his area led to Belgium's first goal, is the obvious candidate to lose his place.

Choi left the pitch in tears and since then has locked himself away in his room in shame, according to reports from the hotel. If this is not penance enough, Lee will recall first choice goalkeeper Kim Pung-Joo, taking the risk that Kim's knee injury may not be fully healed.

Replayed

Strikers Choi Soon-Ho and Hwang Seon-Hong, both disappointing against Belgium, could also be replaced as South Korea battle desperately to avoid the same fate as in Mexico four years ago when they were eliminated in the first round.

Tomorrow's match is South Korea's last chance — even a draw is likely to seal their fate — but it also gives Spain a second chance after they escaped with a point despite being outplayed by Uruguay.

"It's clear that we'll do better," said manager Luis Suarez, besieged by accusations that his players are not fit or keen.

"I'm not planning to make major changes, I've no reason to think they're necessary," he added defiantly, denying any lack of fitness and attributing his team's dullness against Uruguay to tension and mental blocks.

"We're going to play better and things will go better. You can't judge everything just on one game."

Team captain Emilio Butragueno — a shadow of his usual predatory self against Uruguay, the ball only rarely being played upfield to him — said Spain would respond to the wave of criticism leveled against them by playing more sharply.

"We've got to get over this (disappointment), he said. "The World Cup is not over yet."

If Butragueno has his way, it will be over for South Korea tomorrow.

Probable teams:

Spain — Andoni Zubizarreta, Chendo, Manuel Sanchis, Genaro Andriana, Manuel Jimenez, Michel, Francisco Villaroya, Rafael Marin Vasquez, Roberto, Emilio Butragueno, Manolo.

South Korea — Kim Pung-Joo, Park Kyung-Hoon, Gu Sang-Bum, Choi Kang-Hee, Chung Yong-Hwan, Hong Myung-Bo, Noh Soo-Jin, Kim Joo-Sung, Choi Soon-Ho (or Byun Byung-Joo), Lee Young-Jin, Lee Tae-Ho.

Kickoff: Tomorrow, Sunday, 10.00 pm (Kuwait time)

W. Germany thrash UAE

Voeller finds his mark twice



Emirates goalie Mohsin Faraj makes a save (Reuter wirephoto)



Nassar Khamees (left) of UAE and Mattheus run for the ball (Reuter wirephoto)



Soviet referee looks on as UAE's Ali Thani Juma flies over the knee of W. Germany's Thomas Berthold. (Reuter wirephoto)

MILAN, June 16. (Reuter): West Germany charged towards the second round of the World Cup, swamping the United Arab Emirates 5-1 on a stormy Friday night.

Rudi Voeller scored twice in the Group D match and Juergen Klinsmann, Lothar Mattheus and Uwe Bein supplied the others to better the 4-1 Group D win West Germany achieved over Yugoslavia in the same San Siro stadium last Sunday.

But the UAE frustrated the West Germans for most of the first half on an evening of thunder, lightning and pouring rain and even gave their mighty opponents an anxious moment a minute after the interval with a goal of their own.

Khalid Ismail, substituted for the injured Fahad Khamis in the only change from the side beaten 2-0 by Colombia last Saturday, scored to give the UAE a lifeline at 2-1.

But Mattheus, two-goal star of the win over Yugoslavia, played an exemplary captain's role once again, striking back within a minute at the end of an immediate West German attack with a crisply-struck drive from the edge of the area.

Voeller and Klinsmann, scorers of the two other goals against Yugoslavia, renewed their lethal striking partnership with the first two goals in the 36th and 37th minutes which broke a long deadlock to the intense and noisy relief of thousands of West German fans.

Voeller stabbed home the first from close range, beating goalkeeper Mohsin Mosabab Faraj to the ball after Klinsmann had crossed from the right.

Klinsmann supplied the second, meeting Stefan Reuter's cross from the right with a firm header which he planted into the far corner.

German coach Franz Beckenbauer said: "The team played excellently. There were a few small mistakes, and some difficulties, but I'm happy with their general performance."

"I told the players to put a lot of pressure on, to think positively every time they had an opponent in front of them."

"That's the main thing about playing a game — you need to have the idea of winning," he added.



UAE's Hussain Abbas (left) looks on as Rudi Voeller celebrates his 2nd goal. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maradona looks for winning form

NAPLES, June 16. (Reuter): Argentine captain Diego Maradona will be looking for some signs of World Cup-winning form when the champions take on Romania in their final Group B match on Monday.

While Argentina showed more grit and purpose in their 2-0 win over the Soviet Union on Wednesday than in their opening loss to Cameroon, their performance was a far cry from those in Mexico where they won the title four years ago.

"We want to show all our potential against Romania," Maradona said.

But his response to a question about Romania's key midfielder Gheorghe Hagi betrayed the tension in the Argentine Camp — "We have enough problems — here without having to think about Hagi."

The Argentines must beat the Romanians to stand a chance of winning Group B and staying in

Naples, home of Napoli captain Maradona and focus of their Italian support.

"If we don't win we have no chance (of remaining in Naples), Maradona said. "Although, if we want to aim higher we should be prepared to go anywhere."

Winning the group would also be rewarded in the second round with a match against a third-place finisher from another group, rather than against one of the stronger sides.

Midfielder Sergio Batista is keen to avoid group winners and runners-up. "A third-placed team struggles through, whereas a team finishing in first place will be raring to go."

Cameroon, who upset Argentina 1-0 in the opening match in Milan and surprised Romania 2-1 in Bari on Thursday, need only to draw with the Soviet Union to send Argentina elsewhere.

Kissinger: an expert on soccer

LOS ANGELES, June 16. (AP): The name was familiar, but seemingly out of place in the sports section. A World Cup soccer column in one of America's leading newspapers under the byline of Henry Kissinger.

Actually, it wasn't the first time the former secretary of state had undertaken such an endeavour, and it won't be the last — Kissinger and Anthony Day, a senior correspondent for the Los Angeles Times, are teaming up on five World Cup columns during this year's competition in Italy.

"In 1986, he wrote a wonderful column about soccer and we ran it on the final day of the World Cup in our Sunday opinion section," Day said yesterday. "He's been writing for the Los Angeles Times syndicate for about six years and I've been his editor."

Last Sunday's column previewed the World Cup competition and pointed out, among other things, that an estimated 500 million people, a tenth of the world's population, watched the final game of the 1986 World Cup.

The next column will appear June 24, and three will follow on consecutive Sundays.

"He's an international soccer expert," Times sports editor Bill Dwyer said of Kissinger. "He's written about soccer for many years. We thought, 'why not use his expertise?'"

Day said he and Kissinger plan to talk over each column, exchanging drafts and making changes.

"Henry and I are going to meet up in Italy on June 26 and stay there for the rest of the World Cup," Day said. "I'm working on the first draft of the second column right now."

"These columns have been sold in a number of countries through the syndicate. I saw it in Chinese the other day. It's also appearing in Germany, Italy, England, France, Spain, Colombia, China and Venezuela, among others."

Although Day, 57, does most of the writing, he admitted he knows a lot less about soccer than the 67-year-old Kissinger, who's the vice-chairman of the World Cup '94 organizing committee. The 1994 World Cup will be hosted by the United States.

Thys drops Emmers

PESCARANTINA, Italy, June 16. (Reuter): Midfielder Marc Emmers, star of Belgium's 2-0 win against South Korea, has been relegated to substitute for tomorrow's World Cup Group E match against Uruguay.

In another surprise move by Belgian coach Guy Thys, veteran striker Jan Ceulemans has been promoted from the bench to the starting line-up.

Thys also moved Leo Clijsters, sweeper against South Korea, to midfield alongside Franky van der Elst, to fend off Uruguayan strikers Ruben Sosa, Ruben Paz and Enzo Francescoli.

"It's a strange line-up. Our best man of the previous match has been left out this time," said midfielder Patrick Vervoort, also a substitute.

"It could be dangerous to drop Marc after he played so well against South Korea. Marc is a very sensitive guy. This all happens now that he's just back in form," Vervoort said.

Thys refused to expand on his tactics but Emmers said Stephanie Demol was the new libero, while Georges Grun would be the second central defender.

Emmers said he was very disappointed because he had proved at his Belgian club Mechelen that he was capable of playing in different positions if needed.

"But Thys has promised he would bring me on immediately if the new system does not work," he added.

Thys anticipated further changes for the match against Spain, Belgium's final pool outing on June 21.

Kickoff: Sunday, 10.00 pm (Kuwait Time)

Milla seeks new club

FASANO, Italy, June 16. (Reuter): Veteran striker Roger Milla, who scored twice as substitute in Cameroon's 2-1 World Cup defeat of Romania, wants to come out of semi-retirement and join a club abroad.

"I'll play for another year or two. I'd like to play in the United States, France or Italy and then return to Cameroon," Milla said yesterday after his two goals took Cameroon into the second round of the tournament on Thursday.

Milla, 38, retired from top level club soccer in France at the end of the 1988-89 season to play on the Indian Ocean island of La Reunion. He had played for five French clubs.

He said at Cameroon's base in the southern Italian town of Fasano that he would consider coaching the national side if offered the job.

Czechs make Italians happy

ROME, June 16. (Reuter): Czechoslovakia beat Austria in the World Cup yesterday and made 55 million Italians happy.

The 1-0 Group A win took the East Europeans beyond the opening phase for the first time since 1962 and toward the host nation and favorites through as well.

Both teams have four points from two victories apiece and cannot be caught whether they win or lose their closing first round encounter.

With Cameroon leading the chase into the last 16 knockout stage on Thursday, all four squads, including West Germany, have more than a week to plot their second phase campaigns.

Their opponents cannot be established yet because of the complicated nature of a draw in which the top two from all six groups, plus the four next best teams, progress.

Michal Bilek was Czechoslovakia's hero — and Italy's temporary star — when he slotted home a 30th minute penalty.

The lack of goals belied Czechoslovakia's dominance. They took the game to the Austrians and deserved victory.

When Czechoslovakia last made it past the first round in Chile 28 years ago, they went all the way to the final before losing to Brazil.

Pumpido can be replaced: Fifa

TRIGORIA, Italy, June 16. (Reuter): Argentina have been given permission to call up another goalkeeper for the World Cup to replace Nery Pumpido who has a broken leg.

But coach Carlos Bilardo has still to decide whether a replacement will be necessary

and said yesterday: "For the moment, we don't need one."

Pumpido suffered a double fracture of his right leg in a collision with team mate Julio Olarticochea during the World Champion's 2-0 win over the Soviet Union on Wednesday and is expected to return to Buenos

Aires next week.

World Cup rules only allow changes in the 22-man squads in exceptional circumstances but Argentine Football Association president Julio Grandano said Fifa had given permission for Argentina to replace Pumpido if necessary.

Fifa also agreed yesterday to a request by England to allow Dave Beasant to fly to Italy to replace third-choice goalkeeper David Seaman, who is injured.

Argentina, beaten 1-0 Cameroon in the opening game of the tournament a week ago, play Romania in their last opening round match in Naples on Monday.

Bilardo was not expected to make any final decision on whether to replace Pumpido until after Argentina have qualified for the second round.

He declined to say who would be called up if he decided to bring in a replacement, although team sources said the most likely candidate was Angel Comizzo, of Argentine champions River Plate, who is already in Rome.

Pumpido's stand-in against the Soviet Union, Sergio Goycochea, turned in a composed per-

formance after coming on in the 12th minute for only his third international appearance.

Meanwhile Bilardo decided to move his squad from their training camp outside Rome to Naples today, a day ahead of schedule to seek the warmth of Naples.

The ardent support of Neapolitans for Argentine captain Diego Maradona, who plays for Napoli, was a significant factor in the defeat of the Soviet Union following the shock defeat by Cameroon.

Bilardo is clearly keen to capitalise on Neapolitan loyalty ahead of the match against Romania which Argentina must win if they are to have any hope of winning Group B and remaining in Naples for the second round.

Argentina hope Jorge Burruchaga, who scored against the Soviet Union, and defender Oscar Ruggeri will be fit for the match against Romania.

Burruchaga has a damaged thigh and is doubtful for Monday's match against the Soviet Union, but if he passes a fitness test he will replace Pedro Monzon, who has a knee injury.



Pumpido being carried off during Argentina's match against the Soviet Union. (Reuter wirephoto)

Simpson takes lead at Open

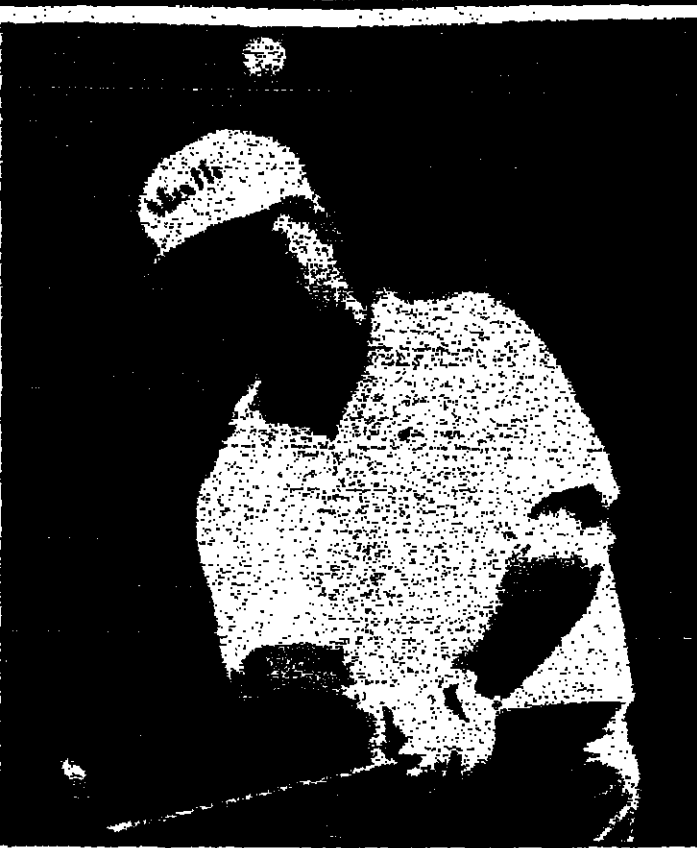
MEDINAH, Illinois, June 16. (Reuters): The monster of Medinah was not to be found again yesterday as a record number of golfers broke par in the second round of the US Open and continued to chase Tim Simpson.

Simpson, who shot a 69 for a one-shot lead over fellow first-round leader Jeff Sluman, was among 47 players to break par-72 on the longest — and some had said the toughest — course in US Open history.

Simpson, whose opening 66 set the course record for Medinah Country Club's 7,195-yard number 3 course, did not let its treacherous trees deter him from staying on top of one of the lowest scoring fields in the history of this major championship. He drove his ball into the woods on three separate holes but escaped with par each time.

Simpson, whose opening 66 was matched by Shuman and Scott Simpson, said "thank you" several times as he managed to make par from the moves on the 6th, 9th and 11th holes.

Mike Donald, who started the day just one shot behind the leaders, stayed close with a two-under 70 that put him at 137.



Tim Simpson hits a chip shot. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mark Brooks, who was as low as nine-under-par at one point in his round, was alone at 138 after he toured the back nine in two over for a 70.

First-round co-leader Scott Simpson, who stumbled to a 73, and surprising veteran Hale Irwin, who shot 70, were tied at 139.

Ian Woosnam of Britain, who made a strong run at the leaders

before making a triple bogey on the treacherous 17th hole, was at 140 along with John Huston, who matched par. Jim Gallagher, who shot 69, and Billy Ray Brown, who came in with 71.

Scott Simpson, winner of this championship in 1987, got to eight-under but faltered coming in, making five bogeys and two birdies over the last 10 holes.

Lewis impressive

NORWALK, California, June 16. (Reuters): A rusty Carl Lewis may still be the world's best sprinter.

The world record-holder, out of competition for nine months to write his autobiography, exploded over the last 60 metres to claim the US national 100-metre championship in an impressive 10.05 seconds yesterday at Cerritos College.

"This is just the beginning," said the Lewis. "I'm looking forward to a great summer."

Training partner Mark Witherspoon finished second in 10.25 seconds.

Sore knuckles finally caught up with shot put world record-holder Randy Barnes as fellow US Olympian Jim Doehring hit 21.20 metres on his last throw to top Barnes by eight cms.

Olympic silver medalist Hollis Conway edged former national champion Doug Nordquist in the men's high jump as both cleared 2.36 metres to equal the best performance in the world this year.

World high hurdles record-holder Roger Kingdom came on

strong in the last half of his 110-metre event to win in 13.22 seconds with early leader Tony Dees second in 13.40.

Former US Olympian Lavonna Martin won the women's 100-metre hurdles in 12.90 seconds and Michelle Finn claimed the women's 100-metre title in 11.20 seconds.

World 400-metre record-holder Butch Reynolds ran only 50 metres in the preliminaries of the men's 200 metres. A left hamstring injury caused him to quit.

But he still qualified for next month's Goodwill Games in Seattle as an invited guest in the 400 metres.

World heptathlon record-holder Jackie Joyner-Kersey turned up for her trip to Seattle by qualifying for today's finals in both the women's long jump and shot put. Her long jump of 6.93 metres was the best by an American this year.

Kenny Harrison used his final jump of 17.15 metres to upset Mike Conley in the men's triple jump. Conley had a best of 17.12 metres.

Moses, Lewis at odds

NORWALK, California, June 16. (Reuters): American world record holders Carl Lewis and Edwin Moses are at odds again.

Never the best of friends, Moses and Lewis have been expressing differing opinions over the effectiveness of the Athletics Congress (TAC) — the sport's US governing body — and its controversial year-round drug-testing programme.

Moses, an outspoken critic of TAC's leadership recently, compared the governing body to a sinking ship, while Lewis, in an apparent reversal of past criticism, says TAC officials now appeared to be moving the sport forward.

Moses said members of TAC's athletes advisory committee would be discussing the organisation's leadership at a meeting this evening after the US National Championships.

"(TAC executive director) Ollan Cassell is the captain of the ship, but the ship is sinking, and people realise the sport (in the United States) is sinking," Moses told Reuters in an interview at his home in Newport Beach.

The 400-metre hurdles world record holder, who resigned in May as chairman of TAC's year-round drug testing committee in protest over what he said was lack of support by TAC officials, accused TAC's leaders of numerous improprieties in connection with the operation of the programme which he helped develop.



Tyson flexes his muscles while promoter Don King cheers him on. Fight: Foreman shows his muscles to the crowd. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tyson looks smaller at weigh-in

LAS VEGAS, June 16. (Reuters): A somewhat less bulky looking Mike Tyson weighed-in at 217 pounds (98.4 kg) yesterday for his first fight since losing his heavyweight title to James "Buster" Douglas last February.

Tyson's weighed 220 pounds (99.8 kg) the night Douglas knocked him out in the 10th round in Tokyo to win the title.

Tyson, at the weigh-in for his scheduled 10-round bout with fellow American Henry Tillman this evening, generally appeared less muscled, particularly around the shoulders and neck, than he has in a long time.

One of his cornermen said that Tyson's neck, although officially put at 19-3/4 inches (50 cm) was really closer to 18 inches (46 cm).

The 29-year-old Tillman, who has a record of 20-4, weighed 215 pounds (97.55 kg) and has a four-inch (10 cm) height advantage and a 10-inch (25 cm) longer reach than the 23-year-old former champion. George Foreman, on the Tyson-Tillman under card fighting Adilson Rodrigues of Brazil, weighed 260 pounds (118 kg) yesterday for his scheduled 10-round bout.

Foreman, 41, has a 66-2 record and is 21-0 since beginning his comeback bid in 1987 to regain the title he held in 1974.

Rodrigues, 10 years Foreman's junior has a record of 36-3, including a second-round knockout last July by number-one ranked heavyweight contender Evander Holyfield.

Al Wayle win One-Day Cup

KPBL tourney starts

THE Kaifun Secondary High School Gym was once again filled with basketball enthusiasts as the "Trico/KPBL '90 (Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League '90) 2nd Conference" got off to a rousing start. Twenty-eight of the record total (32) participating teams in the basketball and darts competitions braved the summer heat and joined the parade of entries which started the day's activities. Present during the opening ceremonies were members of the Philippine embassy, Kuwait, led by Dr Maung Mohammad Tamano, (Philippines' ambassador to Kuwait), who gave the inspirational message to all the participants.

In brief remarks, the ambassador stressed the importance of KPBL's sports activities, which foster camaraderie and brotherhood amongst the Pinoy expatriates in Kuwait. He lauded the efforts of the KPBL organisers. The ambassador also thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and all those who've helped in organising such sports competitions. He wished the KPBL the best in its undertakings and hoped that more sports enthusiasts (Filipinos and other nationalities) will be drawn to this competition.

After the ambassador's speech, the muses of the participating teams were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to the participants and spectators as well.

It was hard for the panel of judges (composed of Dr Maung M. Tamano, Minister Counsellor and Consul General Dr Dauday A. Tago, Mohammad Taha Guinomia, Bert Papis, Mr and Mrs Bert Marin, and Chawkie E. Barakat) to select the most outstanding of them all. However, Ms Rosale Austria of the Pizza Italia All Filipino men's team, was unanimously chosen to be the "Best Muse" — Ms Trico/KPBL '90 2nd Conference. Ms Rosale is a 28-year-old eye-catcher who hails from Quezon City. This lovely lass has been here in Kuwait for almost 5 years and she is an optometrist for the Sherin Optics, Kuwait. A Centro Escolar University doctor of optometry degree holder, she loves baking and cooking.

This was followed by the selection of the team that had the "best uniform." Clearly, the "Trend Wave basketball team" of Ruben Saldia won the award for their neat white with red, yellow, orange and blue combinations.

Pizza Italia general manager, Chawkie E. Barakat was then presented a "special plaque of recognition" for his continuous support to the "KPBL" and the Filipino community as a whole. He thanked the award and promised to continue with what he has achieved.

The oath of sportsmanship was then led by the KPBL commissioner Ed Mateo. This was followed by the formal opening of the games by Dr Tamano, and later on the KPBL Selection vs BES Engineering exhibition match, followed by the "Unahan Sa Beinte" One-Day Championship.

Results of the games played on Friday:

1. Exhibition game — men's basketball

KPBL All Filipino Selection 106, BES Engineering (Phil-Chinese) 91

2. Unahan Sa Beinte One-Day Championship — men's basketball eliminations

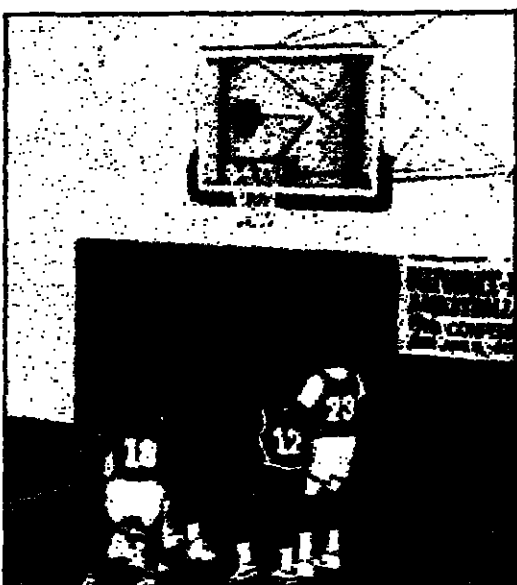
NIC 20, Al Ghanim Blue Star 13; Pizza Italia 21, KRP 17; KHC Bayan 20, OTC 17; KPBC 21, Kalecoo 7; Kirby Buildings Systems — by; Nissan Al Baitain 20, Kay & Associates 9; Trend Wave



Ms Trico/KPBL with Dr Tamano



Trend Wave, best uniform



Al Wayle/Kellogg game in progress.



Action shot of KRP-Pizza Italia match.

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20, KCA Bytes 14 (longest game of the day); Kellogg 21, Al Ghanim Freight & Travel 15; Al Wayle 20, KIH 12; Hasawi Eagles 20, Al Widad/Capcom 14.

Quarterfinals

Pizza Italia 20, NIC 9; KHC Bayan 20, KPBC 18 (best game of the day); Kirby 20, Nissan Al Baitain 19; Kellogg 20, Trend Wave 6; Al Wayle 21, Hasawi Eagles 14.

Semifinals

KHC Bayan 21, Pizza Italia 13; Kellogg 21, Kirby 16; Al Wayle — by.

Finals

Al Wayle 20, KHC Bayan 11; Al Wayle 20, Kellogg 9

Al Wayle, champion "Unahan Sa Beinte" One-Day Championship

3. Open/expatriates' darts team

competitions

Anak Rest. 1, Al Wayle 1, D'Bug 1, KHC Bayan 1, Mabuhay Rest. 1, SAS Hotel 1

KPBL meeting

A general meeting is scheduled today at 8.00 pm at the Carlton Hotel, Mabuhay Restaurant, Kuwait.

All officers and members of the board as well as respective team representatives of all the participating teams are required to attend this meeting.

Registration in the Open/expatriates Men's Basketball Invitational is still open. Call 5335203, Ed Mateo.

Key and Associates, 4 — Shell Super Plus, 0

The Lady Associates debated with a bang as they went on to blank Shell. Amy Abdon who scored 543 inspired her team mates to give all they've got which resulted in their big win. The other top scorers for Kay were Arleen (478), Beng (472) and Grace (455). For Shell, who failed to find their touch, as they were expected to give their opponent a good fight was led by Babes Penolosa (470) and Vicki Mendoza (452).

Men's Division

West Africa Est. 3 — Hatid Ligaya, 1

In a day full of upsets, the West Africans pulled the biggest of them all as they dealt depending champion Hatid Ligaya a shocking defeat. With all the odds going against them, the West African message experts rolled strikes one after the other with Nito Conrado (507), followed by Toto (477) and Danny (477). On the other hand, Hatid Ligaya, who failed to get good showings from their best bowlers had Eric Landrito (505) and Rudy Zablan (479) as the best cargo forwarders.

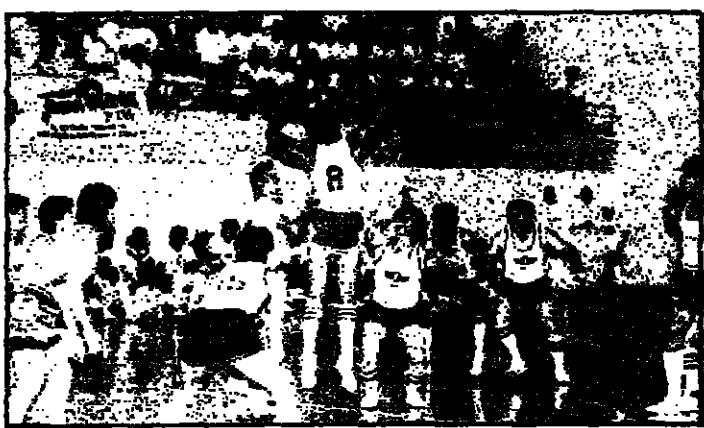
Chiquita, 3 — FRM Design Studio, 1

Title contenders Chiquita lived up to their billing as one of the favorites after they clobbered FRM design. The Banana Manates was led by Banana king Lando Caburao with 543 with able support from Pete (524) and Wally (501).

The designers were able to get their lone point through the efforts of Caloy Abesamis (496), JVC, Manny, Flor and Louie.



Chawki Barakat (right) receives his special plaque.



All the members of the Al Wayle winning team.

Filcheck tournament to start on Friday

THE first round matches of the single round-robin Inter-Commercial Team Chess Tournament, organised by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck), will be held on Friday, June 22, at 9.00 am, at the Kabayan Restaurant.

Each team will compose of four regular players and two alternates. Group A rated players are qualified to play boards 1 and 2 while Group B rated will play boards 3 and 4 with both groups having one alternate each. The tournament will follow the international standard time control, first 40 moves in 2 hours and each succeeding 20 moves in one hour. Defaulting time

is 30 minutes from the official starting time. Each player is required to wear their official team uniform during the games

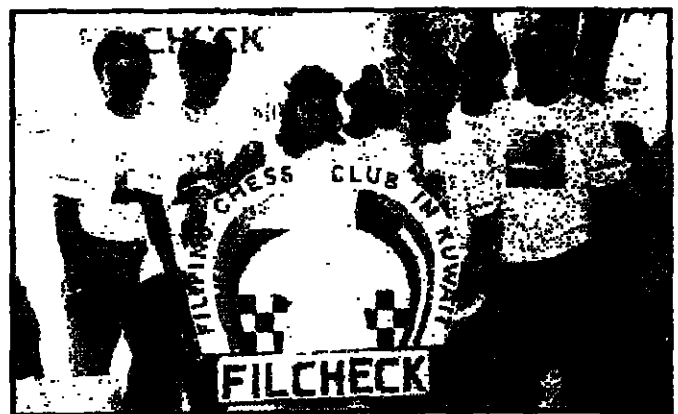
and to record his moves and those of his opponents on the official scoresheet provided by the club. A player who refuses to do so shall be adjudged loser as per article 10.16 of the Fide laws of chess.

First-round schedule for Friday, June 22, (White versus Black): Far East Bank/

City Int'l vs Kabayan Restaurant, Hatid-Ligaya Door-to-Door vs Al Rashed Freight, Al Nuzha Garage vs Kirby Bldg Systems.



The Al Rashed Freight team.



The Far East Bank/City Int'l squad.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Borg creditors

STOCKHOLM, June 16, (Reuters): Sweden's creditors will sue former tennis ace Bjorn Borg for failing to pay debts of 10 million crowns (\$1.65 million) from his fallen business empire, a spokeswoman for the liquidators said yesterday. "The creditors have decided to sue Borg because he has broken his promise to pay what he owes," she added.

Long reign

LAS VEGAS, June 16, (AP): James "Buster" Douglas, whose upset of Mike Tyson was arguably the biggest in boxing history, says being the heavyweight champion is nice, but not nice enough to keep him in the ring for an extended period. "I don't see myself having a long reign, only because I don't want one," Douglas told a gathering of reporters yesterday at the Mirage, where he is scheduled to defend the title Sept 21 against Evander Holyfield.

Early lead

LE MANS, France, June 16, (Reuters): Julian Bailey, chasing the first ever victory by a Japanese constructor in the Le Mans 24 hour sports car race, took an early lead today. The British Nissan driver took advantage of his pole position on the grid to set the early pace, closely followed by a Porsche driven by Oscar Larrauri of Argentina after the start was given some 30 seconds before 1400 GMT.

Waldner triumphs

BALTIMORE, Maryland, June 16, (Reuters): The world's top ranked table tennis player, Jan-Ove Waldner of Sweden, saved five match points yesterday to defeat Peter Karlsson of Sweden 3-1 (20-22, 24-22, 22-20, 21-16) in a quarterfinal match at the US Open championships.

Suspension upheld

INDIANAPOLIS, June 16, (Reuters): A three-member drug control review board panel of the Athletics Congress (TAC) upheld a three-month suspension of Olympic long jump bronze medalist Larry Myricks. TAC announced yesterday.

Hockey tourney

AMSTELVEEN, Netherlands, June 16, (Reuters): Results on the first day of the BMW Trophy men's international hockey tournament today: Netherlands beat India 3-1 (half-time 3-1). Scores: Netherlands — Eric Parlevliet (2), Marc Delissen. India — Ram Prakash Singh. Pakistan beat Spain 4-1 (half-time 1-1). Scores: Pakistan — Mehmoode Hussain, M. Ibrahim, Q.M.U. Rehman, Tahir Zaman. Spain — Jose Vasas.

Hadlee's knighthood posing a problem

LONDON, June 16, (Reuters): The award of a knighthood to Richard Hadlee is posing cricket authorities at Lord's with a problem — how to list the great man on their scorecards. The New Zealand all-rounder is the first cricketer to be awarded the honour while still active as a player and Marylebone Cricket Club spokesman John Smith admitted Hadlee's award had caught the club unawares. "This is a baffler," he said. "But remembering that titles were used in gentlemen versus players matches of yesteryear, I suppose there is every chance of Richard being listed on our scorecards as Sir R.J. Hadlee."

Egypt aim for upset win over Ireland in second match

PALERMO, Sicily, June 16, (AP): Egypt is aiming for an upset of Ireland tomorrow, hoping to continue the World Cup pattern of surprises started by another African team, Cameroon. Egypt surprised the heavily favoured Netherlands in its opening Group F match, playing the Dutch to a 1-1 draw.

Ireland also drew 1-1 with England in their first match of the month long tournament.

Egypt would like to pull off an upset tomorrow, duplicating the feat of Cameroon, which stunned Argentina 1-0 and Romania 2-1 to guarantee it will advance to the World Cup's second round.

"African soccer is undoubtedly growing as a whole," says Egyptian coach Mahmoud El Gohary. "But we are growing, too, and even if our adversaries represent the best of West European soccer, we have a duty to think of advancing to the second round."

To win, Egypt will need a strong game from its only two fully professional players: Hossan Hassan, a 23-year-old forward with impressive speed and technique, and Magdi Abdel-Ghani, 30, an attacking midfielder who scored Egypt's goal against the Netherlands.

Hassan has signed a contract to play for top Greek club Paok Salonika next season. Abdel-Ghani plays for Portugal's First-Division team, Beira Mar. Most of the other members of the Egyptian squad play in the North African country's First Division, but

the League is only part time. Egypt is making its first World Cup appearance since 1934. El-Gohary, however, is a former army colonel who has given the team confidence and discipline.

Kickoff: Sunday, 6pm (Kuwait time).

Brazil reach 2nd round

Muller gets only goal of match



Conejo kneels in prayer to seek God's help to stop the Brazilians. (Reuters wirephoto)

TURIN, June 16, (Reuters): Three times champions Brazil reached the last 16 of the World Cup today after besieging the Costa Rica goal for 90 minutes for a paltry 1-0 reward.

The solitary goal came after 33 minutes when Muller gave keeper Luis Gabelo Conejo no chance with a powerful shot from just inside the penalty area.

Costa Rican defender Mauricio Montero deflected the ball in though the shot was a winner from the second it left the Torino striker's boot.

A mixture of bad luck, poor finishing and brilliance by Conejo and his defence kept the score down though most of the 58,000 crowd went home convinced Brazil should have scored at least five.

Brazil's whirlwind start forced a Costa Rican defender to head against the bar after only two minutes while Muller saw his header bounce up from the ground and against the bar 12 minutes after the interval.

In between the frustrated Brazilians, forced on desperately by Alemão and Valdo, ran the Costa Rican defence ragged to no avail.

The Central Americans, who beat Scotland 1-0 on Monday and are in the finals for the first time, did not force a single save from Brazilian keeper Claudio Taffarel.

The result gave Brazil four points in Group C which also includes Scotland and Sweden.

Teams Brazil: Claudio Taffarel, Mozer, Mauro Galvão, Ricardo Gomez, Jorginho, Alemão, Dunga, Valdo (Silas, 87th minute), Branco, Careca (Bebeto, 82nd), Muller.

Costa Rica: Luis Gabelo Conejo, Roger Flores, Ronald Gonzalez, Mauricio Montero, Jose Chavez, German Chavarria, Oscar Ramirez, Roger Gomez, Juan Cayasso (Alexander Guimaraes, 76th), Hector Marchena, Claudio Jara (Roy Myers, 65th).

Standings in World Cup first-round play after today's matches (tabulate under matches played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Czechoslovakia 2 2 0 0 6 1 4	West Germany 2 2 0 0 9 2 4	Colombia 2 1 0 1 2 1 2	Yugoslavia 2 1 0 1 2 4 2
Italy 2 2 0 0 2 0 4	Colombia 2 1 0 1 2 1 2	Yugoslavia 2 1 0 1 2 4 2	Yugoslavia 2 1 0 1 2 4 2
Austria 2 0 0 2 0 2 0	UAE 2 0 0 2 1 7 0	UAE 2 0 0 2 1 7 0	UAE 2 0 0 2 1 7 0
United States 2 0 0 2 1 6 0	Belgium 1 1 0 0 2 0 2	Belgium 1 1 0 0 2 0 2	Belgium 1 1 0 0 2 0 2
Group C	Uruguay 1 1 0 0 0 0 1	Uruguay 1 1 0 0 0 0 1	Uruguay 1 1 0 0 0 0 1
Cameroon 2 1 0 0 3 1 4	Spain 1 0 1 0 0 0 1	Spain 1 0 1 0 0 0 1	Spain 1 0 1 0 0 0 1
Romania 2 1 0 1 3 2 2	South Korea 1 0 1 0 0 2 0	South Korea 1 0 1 0 0 2 0	South Korea 1 0 1 0 0 2 0
Argentina 2 1 0 1 2 1 2	England 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	England 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	England 1 0 1 0 1 1 1
Soviet Union 2 0 0 2 2 4 0	Ireland 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Ireland 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Ireland 1 0 1 0 1 1 1
Group D	Netherlands 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Netherlands 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Netherlands 1 0 1 0 1 1 1
Brazil 2 2 0 0 3 1 4	Egypt 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Egypt 1 0 1 0 1 1 1	Egypt 1 0 1 0 1 1 1
Costa Rica 2 1 0 1 1 1 2			
Sweden 1 0 0 1 1 2 0			
Scotland 1 0 0 1 0 1 0			

NOTE: Result of England-Netherlands match not included

Lendl, Becker in final

LONDON, June 16, (Reuters): Ivan Lendl earned a title match against Boris Becker by crushing John McEnroe 6-2 6-4 in the London Grass Court Tennis Championships today, but McEnroe was not dejected and was lavish in praise for his conqueror.

"If I'm getting my butt kicked like I was today I would like to make light of it," the tempestuous 31-year-old American said after his semifinal defeat by Lendl. "There is no sense getting angry. That just makes it worse."

"He outplayed me on serve. He moved well, he returned well and I never really hurt him," McEnroe added. "His confidence is high and he is going for his shots."

"But it will be interesting to see how he copes when the going gets tougher," he said.

Becker, meanwhile, seized the psychological initiative over Stefan Edberg in their buildup for Wimbledon, where they have clashed in the last two finals, by beating the Swede 6-4 6-4 in the other semifinal.

Lendl's power, carried him past McEnroe as the big world number one hammered home 11 aces and many more service winners. Three aces came in four points in the eighth game of the second set when McEnroe led 15-40 in a bid to get back to 4-4.

McEnroe seemed determined to throw him another ball for the serve, he smiled and said: "I know I don't deserve them — but please."

But he still demanded that an official be removed during the first set — a move which was granted. "It was to keep things running smoothly and keep everything low-key," Grand Prix supervisor Gayle Bradshaw said.

That upset Lendl. "It was the same old thing. They shouldn't change the officials but now they will have to do it every time. I think they've put their foot in it."

McEnroe, who has won Wimbledon three times, indicated that tournament, which begins on June 25, will come too soon for him this year.

All Blacks overcome tough Scots

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, June 16, (Reuters): New Zealand's rugby All Blacks beat a surprisingly confident Scotland team 31-16 today in the first Test of a two-Test series between the two countries.

The outcome was in doubt at least until the turnaround at Scotland, the 1990 Five Nations champions, ran the ball through the backs and composed some competent moves.

New Zealand-born Sean Linen, the son of an All Black, scored Scotland's first try, running in under the posts after just seven minutes.

The world champion All Blacks, who have been plagued by three defeats to Rugby League in recent months, had control in the second half, apart from a brief glimmer by the Scots that was too late to change the result.

All Black wing John Kirwan scored two tries, while Grant Fox, celebrating his 28th birthday, kicked one penalty, four conversions and scored his debut Test try.

After some thrilling open play, it was the All Blacks who posted the first points on the board. Fly-half Fox kicked a penalty following some over-exuberance from the Scots in a ruck.

The tourists continued to apply pressure and the payoff soon came. Speedster Lineen, who switched to Scotland in 1988 from top New Zealand province counties, scored with full back Gavin Hastings converting to put Scotland ahead 6-3.

Youthful new caps Walter Little at centre and Ian Jones at lock staged gritty performances for New Zealand. But the day belonged to fullback Kieran Crowley, whose recall after more than three years, received muted media enthusiasm.

Today's matches

1. Ireland vs Egypt — 6 pm (Kuwait time).
2. Belgium vs Uruguay — 40 pm.
3. S. Korea vs Spain — 10 pm.

The first two matches will be shown live by KTV. The recording of S. Korea — Spain game will be shown after the 2nd game.



Soccer violence

Italian policemen wielding batons chase an England soccer fan after violence broke out between fans and police before the England-Holland match. (Reuters wirephoto)

W. Germans get time off: West Germany's World Cup players enjoyed a day off yesterday after securing a place in the second round when they defeated the United Arab Emirates in Milan on Friday. After the late-evening match, the players got back to their base near Lake Como at 1 am and had dinner with wives and girlfriends.

Italians favour alcohol ban: Despite angry protests by bar and restaurant operators, a majority of Italians agree with the World Cup ban on alcohol, according to an opinion poll published on Saturday. The poll, reported by the Corriere Della Sera newspaper, showed 73 per cent of those surveyed agreed with the match-day ban in all 12 World Cup venues. Twenty per cent were against and six per cent undecided.

Dasayev may quit team: Rinat Dasayev, one of world's best goalkeepers over the past decade, said yesterday he may quit the Soviet national soccer team after the World Cup. "I think it is time for me to go," said the 32-year-old Dasayev, who has played 97 matches for the Soviet squad and was in first-choice goal at the 1982 and 1986 World Cups in Spain and Mexico.

Ozone layer being harmed: Noisy blaxons used by fans every time Italy wins a World Cup game are damaging the ozone layer, the country's Greens Party said yesterday. The Greens said the gas-powered horns, like many deodorant and other sprays, used chemicals which are harmful to the ozone layer.

UAE face defence problems: The United Arab Emirates' defence, which let in five goals against West Germany on Friday, faces more problems with captain Mubarak Ghanim unlikely to return from injury for their final first round match. "There is a 90 per cent probability that he will not play against Yugoslavia," the team's Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Pereira said yesterday.

Tickets selling for \$970: The best tickets for the World Cup final on July 8 are being offered by a travel agent in Tuscany at 1.2 million lire (\$1,530) — nearly six times the official price. The official World Cup tour operator said on Friday it was selling books of six top class tickets, including the final, for 1.9 million lire (\$1,530).

1,800 km journey: Soccer fan Ramon Muzo cycled 1,800 km (1,100 miles) to watch Spain play in the World Cup. Muzo, 38, began his journey on the island of Majorca 13 days ago and arrived in Udine, in north-east Italy, yesterday on the eve of Spain's match against South Korea.

Redant takes the plunge: Belgium's World Cup footballers overcame a spell of boredom yesterday by throwing team doctor Walter Redant fully-clothed into their hotel pool. A tournament hostess also made an unexpected splash. "I'd better start apologising now," muttered defender Stephane Denoit. Redant was not amused.

Maradona hits out at press: Diego Maradona, notorious for his 'hand of God' goal at the 1986 World Cup, on Friday hit out at wide press coverage of the handball which stopped the Soviet Union scoring against Argentina. "The goals I scored with my foot would seem to have no worth," Maradona said at Argentina's training camp outside Rome.

Anti-alcoholism group pleased: A World Cup alcohol ban, which has provoked howls of protests from restaurant and bar owners, has pleased at least one group — Italy's Anti-alcoholism Association. The ban, clamped on all 12 World Cup cities on match days in an attempt to head off violence by hooligans, has prompted a wave of protests by restaurateurs and barmen who say it is ruining their business.

Best World Cup goal: "It's the best goal of my World Cup," beamed Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci after coddling his new baby for the first time. His wife Rita gave birth to a son, Mattia, in Turin on Friday and Schillaci was released from the Italian team hotel to spend time with his family at a Turin clinic. The couple have a two-year-old daughter, Jessica.

Free trip: Adrian Mooney is leading a dog's life at the World Cup and enjoying every minute of it. To finance a trip to watch Ireland, the 20-year-old Dublin student volunteered to dress up in a grey Irish wolfhound costume and lope around Palermo as team mascot 'Mascul'.

Burruchaga vows not to shave: Argentine midfielder Jorge Burruchaga has vowed not to shave before the end of the World Cup finals after scoring a goal in the 2-0 win over the Soviet Union on Wednesday.

Police use batons: Riot police used tear-gas and batons to force back stone-throwing English soccer fans heading for the high-security World Cup match between England and Netherlands in Cagliari yesterday. Less than three hours before the kick off, a phalanx of about 1,000 chanting English supporters turned on police about two km (one mile) from Sant'Elia Stadium and began hurling rocks picked up on waste ground.

Gruber takes Blue Jays past Yankees



Cardinals' Todd Zeila (centre) is congratulated by team-mates after his 3-run homer. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEW YORK, June 16, (AP): Kelly Gruber, pinch-hitting for the first time this season, put Toronto Blue Jays ahead with a bases-loaded triple in the eighth inning and scored the decisive run on Pat Borders' single as Toronto beat New York 5-4, for its 12th win in its last 13 road games.

David Wells (5-1) gave up three runs and seven hits seven innings. He is 4-0 in five starts since moving into the rotation last month and 6-1 lifetime against the Yankees. Tom Henke yielded one run in two innings for his 10th save.

Toronto trailed 3-1 until Gruber's two-out, opposite-field triple that caromed away from right fielder Jesse Barfield.

Expos 7, Cardinals 4

Montreal rallied for six runs before making an out in the ninth inning as Dave Martinez hit a three-run triple and Nelson Santovenia added a two-run pinch homer to power the Expos past slumping St. Louis Cardinals.

Results American League

Toronto	5	N.Y. Yankees	4
Boston	4	Baltimore	3
Cleveland	5	Milwaukee	3
Detroit	2	California	1
Kansas City	5	Minnesota	1
Oakland	5	Chicago WS	4
Texas	4	Seattle	3

National League

(1) Philadelphia	6	Chicago Cubs	5
(2) Philadelphia	7	Chicago Cubs	0
Cincinnati	6	Houston	3
N.Y. Mets	7	Pittsburgh	5
Montreal	7	St. Louis	4
San Diego	3	Los Angeles	1
San Francisco	8	Atlanta	2



Expos' Delino DeShields safely steals second as Cardinals Ozzie Smith tries to make a tag. (Reuters wirephoto)



Blue Jays Nelson Liriano (left) tags Yankees' Steve Balboni at second base. (Reuters wirephoto)



Italian police hold a young Italian over the bonnet of a police car in Cagliari early today after he was apprehended following disturbances between England fans and local youths. (Reuters wirephoto)

Italy expels three English hooligans

ROME, June 16, (Reuters): Italy deported three English World Cup fans on a blacklist of hooligans today, 12 hours before a match between England and the Netherlands in Cagliari at which serious crowd violence is feared.

Border police at Rome's Fiumicino Airport said the three were among 16 fans detained for identity checks when they arrived from London yesterday afternoon.

English police had tipped off Italian authorities about the group's arrival. The other 13 were released later yesterday.

The three, who had planned to fly on to Cagliari,

were put on the first flight to London this morning, police said.

Four knife-carrying West German supporters were turned back at Italy's borders yesterday before West Germany's 5-1 victory over the United Arab Emirates in Milan, police said.

But there was none of the feared violence from fans before or after that match.

More than 4,000 armed police mounted the biggest security drive of the World Cup to try to keep English and Dutch fans apart before, after and during this evening's match.

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Published by:
Dar Al-Sayassah

Editor-in-Chief:
Ahmed Al Jarallah

Editorial Offices:
Airport Road, Sharjah
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait

Telex:
252322 KT

Telephone:
4813546 (main lines)

Advertisement:
4813547